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PHAR Storage

THE AUSTRALASIAN
Journal of Pharmacy
With which is Incorporated
The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.

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Support the P.A.T.A.

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SEABURY'S BELLADONNA PLASTERS

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BELLADONNA PLASTER
SEABURY & JOHNSON
IF THE CLOTH ADHERES TO THE FACE OF THE PLASTER WET IT AND IT CAN BE EASILY REMOVED.
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Messrs. Pearson's Antiseptic Co. Ltd. have been granted the use of the Trade Mark "LYSOL" in Australia, but not wishing to perpetuate the German name they have incorporated with "Lysol" the British trade mark "PACOLOL."

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You will give your customers satisfaction when you supply the guaranteed pure

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TRADE "Eclipse" MARK

HOT WATER BOTTLES

FITTED WITH INGRAM'S "ECLIPSE" STOPPER.
GUARANTEED NOT TO SLIP OR LEAK.

BRITISH MADE
BY
EXPERT BRITISH LABOUR

Size, inches ...	10x6	10x8	12x6	12x8	12x10	14x8	14x12	16x12
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No. 37.

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Coventry.

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It is cheaper than the imported article.

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It has no fear
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It soothes the skin and keeps it white,
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Articles.

"Pharmacy: Its Meaning and Ethics."*

By T. E. TURNER, PH.C.

In its concrete or actual sense a pharmacy is a place where medicines are compounded. In the abstract sense pharmacy means the art or practice of preparing and preserving drugs and of compounding and dispensing medicines according to the prescriptions of physicians. It is the occupation of an apothecary or a pharmaceutical chemist.

It is a remarkable thing but we have to go back to the ancient East for the first pharmacist, and to a race we have learnt to despise—the Arabs. In 754 A.D. the Caliph Abu Dschaffer el Mensur founded a medical school and hospital at Bagdad, pharmacy was made a special training, and a complicated art of preparing and mixing and dispensing drugs according to recognised formulæ. And pharmacists were put under police supervision, and were responsible to the authorities for preparing their drugs properly, keeping their shops in proper order and in regard to the purity of their medicines. What is much more striking is that even in those early days the Arabs, shall I say more enlightened than we are, had a trained dispenser for each hospital and armies in peace time, and in the field had special members of the craft attached to them. These dispensers were said to be well educated, and at any rate they had to serve an apprenticeship and to satisfy examiners. The first of the pharmacists who kept open shop at Bagdad was Abu Coreisch Isa el Scandalaniand. The shop was opened at the instigation of the Caliph himself, and it is without a doubt distinctly traceable to this man the development of the pharmacist through the continental countries, first in Italy and Spain, thence to France and Germany, and Europe generally.

But we are not concerned with the development of continental pharmacy. Therefore I will briefly deal with that of British pharmacy.

Pharmacy in its modern sense has not arrived at its present position without undergoing a long evolutionary period of growth.

Even as late as the 16th century the science of medicine was but little understood and imperfectly

cultivated, and was often confounded with sorcery and witchcraft. Both men and women practised the art of healing and professed to cure disease in many cases to the accompaniment of certain incantations or mysterious words uttered. There were no laws to protect the public from ignorant practitioners, and indeed there were few of these who had had any education. In 1511 a few of the best of these practitioners banded together and got an act of Parliament through entitled an Act for the Appointing of Physicians and Surgeons. The act did not separate or distinguish between those who practised medicine, surgery, pharmacy, but at this juncture there was an attempt to separate the latter. The assistants to the physicians gradually acquired information respecting properties of drugs and began to transact business on their own account, and these were termed "apothecaries." In 1518 a College of Physicians was founded, and in 1540 physicians were relieved from attendance on juries, and at the same time were given the power of entering the houses of apothecaries in London to search, view and see the apothecary's wares, drugs and stuffs and destroy such as they found unfit for use. Barbers and surgeons were now united into one company, but surgeons were prohibited from shaving, and barbers were restricted from performing surgical operations except drawing teeth. This seems strange now when we look around at the huge brass plates of the dentists and their palatial houses; and note the elaborate laws governing the right to practise dentistry. But it is not so many years since that one could see in Lygon-street, Carlton, a barber's shop displaying a sign "Teeth Extracted," and in the window a huge number of human tusks in all stages of decay, which had been removed by the gentleman who presided over the establishment from the jaws which he had doubtless frequently shaved.

Then in 1542 a further act was passed in order to punish the surgeons because they had abused their privileges, and it provided that no person should take upon himself to practise as physician and surgeon unless he be first examined, admitted and approved by the Bishop of London, and this act was to apply only to those who practised for money, so we can readily imagine there were many quacks who pretended to act gratuitously, and there were numerous prosecutions.

In 1704 a work published says there was no company of apothecaries at the beginning of King James I.'s reign, but what drugs and medicines were then in use were sold in common by the grocers, and as for the preparing and compounding of them, the physicians principally took care of that themselves. But this growing too servile and laborious a business, and no other means being likely to be found out for easing themselves of it but by lopping off a considerable number of grocers, who had mostly been brought up that way and constituting them a company by themselves wholly to be employed in the business of pharmacy, in the selling of drugs and preparing and compounding of medicines according to the physicians' orders and directions. In order to do this they obtained a charter from the King.

In 1618 was effected the publication of what has been irreverently termed the Chemists' Bible, and that is his standard work for the preparation of medicines and for his guidance in dispensing. Editions of this have been repeated continuously at intervals of some years; the last was published in 1898, before that in 1885. Just here it will not be out of place to cast a glance at some of the substances employed about this time and before as medicines. One favoured immensely by prescribers was Mithridate, which contained no less than 72 ingredients. Some were ridiculous; some filthy. Crabs' eyes, prepared pearls, oyster shells, burnt deer's horn, snails, vipers, urina hominis, various portions of criminals, as the thigh bone of a man who had been hanged, and many other absurd remedies were sure and certain cures for certain diseases.

Culpepper's translation of the Pharmacopoeia in 1653 ridicules some of them, particularly those which were obtained from animals. The fat, grease or suet of a duck, goose, eel, heron, dog, fowl, porcupine, man, hare, wolf, album Græcum, (white dog's excrement), stone taken out of a man's bladder, brain of hares and sparrows, the rennet of a lamb, kid, hare, calf, or horse, are mentioned as remedial agents for certain diseases. Culpepper quietly adds, "They should have put the rennet of an ass to make medicine of their addled brains." But the man who lives in a glass house should not throw stones. Culpepper in some places is not much better himself, for he says that bees burnt to ashes and a wash made with the ashes trimly decks a bald head. Again he says the head of a black cat burnt to ashes in a new pot and some of the ashes blown in the eye every day is a very useful remedy.

By 1694 Apothecaries Company had grown from 114 to 1000, and all members were exempt from serving as constables, scavengers, and other parish duties. The Society had established a chemical laboratory, the main object of which was to prepare chemicals for the use of the subscribers. This was on account of the difficulty of getting pure drugs and chemicals. The preparation of chemicals and galenicals became so extensive and the quality was so good that the Society became a trading company, and supplied any customer coming along, including the Royal Navy.

The members of this society started practising medicine, and this raised the ire of the physicians, who started dispensaries in 1697, which in turn raised the ire of the apothecaries, and there were violent arguments. The feud lasted a long while, and in 1723 the influence of the physicians was sufficiently strong to get an act passed to examine the shops of the apothecaries. The Society obtained a charter in 1748, enabling it to license apothecaries. Their hall was destroyed by the fire of London, and in 1786 was rebuilt. Among other things worthy of note is the fact that they founded a botanical garden at Chelsea, and, I believe, the garden is still in existence, and is used by students of botany. The charter of 1748 was intended to stop unlicensed persons from dispensing and practising pharmacy generally, and also to prevent physicians from dispensing, but it failed as the years went on, and in 1704 the failure became acute, and the Pharmaceutical Association was formed, which was the forerunner of our occupying the position which we now do as dispensers of medicine. Though the Association did not last long both classes (apothecaries and druggists) came together again in 1802. There was considerable see-sawing for some years, but

the late Jacob Bell got a few together at his house, and the British Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain was formed, and on February 18, 1843, became a corporate body, receiving its charter from the British Government. I cannot help quoting Jacob Bell's words on the accomplishment of this. He said: "We draw this moral from our past history. Political controversies and mercenary disputes are injurious to the interest and character of all parties; that the most effectual method which any class of men can adopt for securing their political rights and advancing their professional standing, consists not in disputation and warm argument, but in a steady and persevering attention to intellectual improvement and the establishment of such regulations as are calculated to ensure collective privileges by increasing the amount of individual merit."

In 1852 the Pharmacy Act was passed. I will not weary you with any more detail, but just ask you to note the differences in administration in Great Britain and here.

Turning now to pharmacy itself. To practise the art of pharmacy we must be able not only to compound medicines or dispense prescriptions when they are placed before us, but we must be able to test all the substances used for their value in the treatment and prevention of disease; in fact we must know all about their composition and nature.

Granted then we are practising in that art. We are pharmacists, and making a living as such. We stand between the prescriber and the prescribed for. In other words, we act as assistant custodians of the health of the community. Consequently we have a serious duty to perform. Now as long as anyone has to earn his living (I use the phrase in the broad sense; I am not concerned just here in defining all that goes towards constituting that living), he has to obtain sufficient tokens of wealth by practising some employment or occupation, whether it be making pills or baking bread, or cutting hair; he must (while always obeying the written law of the land), if he wish to have a clear conscience, follow strictly the unwritten laws of fair play to the community, and I will add just here, most particularly to that portion of the community which consists of those practising the same occupation or employment as himself.

This science of keeping in the narrow pathway of duty has been called ethics, from the Greek word signifying custom or usage; but we have extended the meaning so that Webster defines ethics as the science of human duty; rules of practice in respect to a single class of human actions, as political or social ethics, medical ethics.

What, then, are the ethics of pharmacy? Have I not already answered?—following strictly the unwritten law of fair play to the community in general and to the pharmaceutical portion in particular.

1. The first and only essential (for it embraces all others) is the very best of service in the dispensing of physicians' prescriptions, which is the very heart and essence of the call to us as pharmacists. There must be no shirking or shrinking back from the often at times hard tasks imposed on us. There must be no relaxation of the study which enables us to give that very best of service to prescriber and prescribed for. There must be no skimping, no faking, no substitution. The tokens of wealth obtrude upon this. The pharmacist, to keep his end up, must get sufficient of them. That good old platitude, the labourer is worthy of his hire, justifies the pharmacist in making a sufficient charge for his dispensing to enable him to gain the sufficient quantity of tokens of wealth. What is a sufficient quantity is difficult to define.

But it may be said that the dispensing of physicians' prescriptions does not bring in a sufficient supply of tokens of wealth, so that a pharmacist must of necessity add other ways of gaining them. Very well then, in these other ways still observe the strict rule of the very best of service.

2. *Counter prescribing*, i.e., the pharmacist behind the counter; the customer (so the cash register counts him or her) in front of it. This must be in strict accordance with the written law of the land. The pharmacist was only allowed to retain such privileges as he enjoyed before the passing of the act. Exactly what those privileges were I have not seen defined, but we can easily define them for ourselves. Do not attempt the role of a physician. He knows more than you; he has been specially trained. Three guides when not to prescribe: Any abnormal temperature, pulse or respiration. Do not attempt to diagnose from examination of urine. Do not give opiates or hypnotics. Do not attempt surgery. In case of accidents and poisoning cases, etc., render first aid only.

3. *Sundries.*—To name a few of the most commonly asked for:—Tinct. Quin. Ammon.; P. Glyc. Co., Vin. Ipecac.; Syr. Scillæ, Liq. Hydrag. Perox., Ol. Olivae, Ol. Lini, Ol. Ricini, etc. Here, again, give the very best of service; B.P. quality or better. Give freely of your knowledge of the uses of all these, but don't use up too much valuable time. Remember, the labourer is worthy of his hire.

4. *Proprietary Medicines.*—Your own first, because they are the best; mind, not the most profitable. The great number of patent medicines in many cases owned by non-pharmacists has lessened the ability of the pharmacist to obtain tokens of wealth mainly because it has increased the practice of self drugging. The pharmacist has had to go in for similar preparations more and more. This is unavoidable. And better far his own made by himself than the packed goods of big houses of foreign countries. If you must have packed goods have them of Australian or British make.

These brief notes would be incomplete without again emphasising the necessity of observing the unwritten code of fair play to all. Do unto your neighbouring pharmacist as you wish he would do to you. Meet him in friendly conference. Discuss with him frankly difficulties which confront you both. Do not endeavour to build up your business by cut-throat competition. It is an immoral practice, which must spell ruin in the long run. Pharmacy has had a long and honourable history. As its present day exponents, endeavour to leave it better than you found it.

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*Paper read before the Victorian Association of Chemists' Assistants, College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, 8th February, 1917.

Venereal Diseases.

Official Conference of Medical Practitioners and Pharmacists.

List of Drugs recommended to be placed in Schedule, and only to be sold on a Doctor's Prescription.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

By direction of the Minister of Public Health (Hon D. M'Leod, M.L.A.), a joint conference of doctors and pharmacists was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on Thursday, January 25, at 8.30 p.m., to recommend a list of drugs and medicines which, under Section 5, sub-section 3, of the Venereal Diseases Act 1916, might only be sold on the written prescription of a legally qualified medical practitioner.

Mr. W. A. Callaway, Under-Secretary for Victoria, presided.

The following representatives were present:—

Medical Practitioners.—Dr. A. W. D. Robertson, Dr. F. Hobill Cole, Dr. J. H. Johnson, Dr. J. Kennedy, Dr. R. L. M'Adam, and Dr. Noyes.

Pharmacists.—Mr. C. E. Towl, Mr. A. R. Bailey, Major D. A. Cossar, Mr. F. Buckhurst, Mr. H. B. Taylor, Mr. F. W. White.

Appointment of Secretary.

Dr. Cole moved, Dr. M'Adam seconded, that Mr. C. L. Butchers, Registrar of the Pharmacy Board, act as Secretary to the Conference. Carried.

Objects of Conference.

The Chairman said that when the Act was originally drafted it contained a clause which practically prohibited the sale of any drugs and medicines which might be used for venereal treatment, except on a doctor's order. The chemists thought this was unreasonable, and, as the result of representations which were made to the Minister, an amending clause was drafted, and subsequently became a part of the Act. When this clause was being discussed, the Minister gave an assurance that a conference of medical men and pharmacists should be held to determine what drugs and medicines should be included in the regulations to be made under Section 5, subsection 3, of the Act.

This section in effect was as follows:—

First of all, there was an absolute prohibition (except as regards medical practitioners) against any person prescribing or supplying any drug or medicine to any person suffering from venereal disease.

The sub-section permitted the dispensing of prescriptions under certain conditions, and it exempted registered pharmaceutical chemists from the general prohibition to the following extent. That was:—They were permitted to sell or supply any drug or medicine in the ordinary course of their business (except such drugs or medicines as were specified by regulation) provided that such drugs or medicines were not prescribed by such chemist for any person suffering from any venereal disease for the purpose of curing, alleviating, or treating such disease. The object of the Conference was to specify those drugs or medicines which were to be regulated and could only be sold on prescription.

Principles Guiding the Conference.

Dr. Noyes explained that the medical representatives had been called together rather hurriedly, and had not had an opportunity of discussing the matter beforehand.

Dr. Robertson said that the question had been before the Council of the British Medical Association on several occasions. He thought that the whole crux of the matter was that certain drugs were used for the treatment of venereal disease and for other purposes. The question was whether pharmacists were to be allowed to supply these drugs without restriction.

The Chairman asked whether there were any drugs specifically used for the treatment of venereal diseases, and also for other purposes.

Dr. Robertson said there were.

The Chairman said that it might be a simpler procedure if this class of drugs were discussed first.

A Black List or a White List.

Mr. Towl asked for a ruling of the chairman whether the section contemplated a schedule of drugs which could not be sold except on prescription, or vice versa, a list of those drugs which could be sold.

The Chairman said he thought that the wording of the section clearly indicated that the regulations were to name those drugs or medicines which could not be sold except on prescription. The section itself provided an additional safeguard, inasmuch as those drugs which were not placed on the schedule could not knowingly be sold for the purpose of treating venereal disease.

Mr. Bailey said he felt quite certain that the Chairman was right in his ruling, and that Parliament intended the conference to recommend a "black list."

Dr. M'Adam said he thought that if they were to do this the black list would have to be most comprehensive.

Drugs Having a Dual Use.

Mr. Buckhurst said he thought that those drugs which were used for a dual purpose should not be included on any prohibited list.

Dr. Noyes expressed the opinion that if the principal use of certain drugs was the treatment of venereal disease, that should be a sufficient reason to place them on the schedule. There were many drugs which might be easily used for other purposes, but more particularly used for the treatment of venereal disease.

Dr. M'Adam thought it would be a very difficult matter if they had to draw up a list of drugs which might be used for the purpose indicated. They would have to go through the whole pharmacopœia.

Mr. Buckhurst said that any chemist who sold any article in the "black list" except on a doctor's order was guilty of an offence under the Act. In the second place, if he sold any drug or medicine, even if it were not on the "black list," and he knew that such drug or medicine was for the purpose of treating venereal disease, he was also guilty of an offence. It seemed to him that the views of the medical and pharmaceutical bodies almost coincided. The whole object of the Conference was to prevent the treatment of these complaints. Pharmacists desired to work in harmony with medical practitioners in stamping out quackery and similar abuses. They were both imbued with the same motives. At the same time, it would not do to be too unreasonable in the drafting of the proposed schedule. He instanced balsam of copaiba as a case in point. This was often used for poultry diseases. If the chemist sold it for that purpose, then, clearly, he was not liable, but if he knew that the person asking for it intended to use it for a venereal complaint, then there was an offence under the Act. He thought that the best plan was to start with those drugs which both sides agreed should be placed on the list. He, personally, was quite agreeable that salvarsan and other similar drugs should only be supplied on a doctor's order.

Dr. Noyes thought it would be an advantage if they took each of the diseases mentioned in the Act separately. He thought this would facilitate progress.

The Chairman said that as gonorrhœa was mentioned first under the Act they might deal with it before the other complaints.

Dr. M'Adam said that sandal-wood oil and copaiba were used for other things, but the main thing to consider was for what purpose they were most commonly prescribed.

Mr. Towl said he saw a difficulty if they were going to include drugs of this nature in the list. The veterinary people would be almost certain to make a very strong protest if any of the drugs mentioned were included. Copaiba was frequently used in veterinary practice It had other specific uses, and in his opinion was certainly a drug which could be used for other complaints.

Dr. Noyes said that he realised the difficulty of including drugs of this nature. To do so would involve practically all the oleo resins, the astringents, permanganate of potash, catechu and the zinc salts.

The Intention of Parliament.

Mr. Buckhurst thought the Conference would be undertaking an impossible task if it attempted to classify drugs and medicines in this manner. He thought they could only deal with those articles which were exclusively used for the purpose of venereal disease. He was present at Parliament House during the whole of the debate on the Blil. He had no doubt in his mind that Parliament did not intend simple uncompounded drugs of this nature to go on any "black list."

Dr. Robertson said that a man might go into a chemist's shop and ask for 2/6 worth of sandalwood oil.

Dr. Noyes.—It means you could drive a coach and four through the whole Act.

Major Cossar.—I do not think so. No chemist could sell any of the drugs refered to if he knew they were for treating venereal disease. It would be too great a risk for any chemist to run.

The Chairman said that in dealing with the matter they would have to regard what the intentions of Parliament were. He read extracts from Hansard, which clearly indicated that the Legislature did not intend the regulations to include simple drugs which had a dual use. The Minister for Health frequently assured the House that this would not be done. At one stage of the debate he specifically mentioned such drugs as sandal-wood oil and cubebs. It was evidently the intention of Parliament that the sale of these drugs should be allowed, provided they were not knowingly sold for the treatment of venereal disease.

Dr. Robertson.—That raises the whole question. It is the opinion of the British Medical Associaton that chemists should be prevented from selling these drugs.

The Chairman.—You must look at the intention of the Act. Chemists can sell the drugs for ordinary purposes, so long as they do not prescribe them for a venereal patient.

Dr. Noyes.—A man goes in and asks for some copaiba. The chemist can supply it provided he does not know it is to be used for the purpose of treating this complaint.

Pharmacists Eager to Help.

Major Cossar said that the chemist was just as eager as the medical man to assist in stamping out this disease. He was always sending people to medical men. The quacks were the persons who did the harm. By stopping treatment by unqualified persons, a great stride had been made. It would be unwise to go too far with the proposed list. To include copaiba in its simple form would arouse great opposition. In his opinion education would do more good. They were working from the wrong end.

Mr. Towl.—We have men in our ranks, black sheep, who must be restricted, but the medical profession have also a similar class of men in their ranks. All the charlatanism is not on the pharmacists' side. I say this with great respect to those present, but we are here to face things as they are. In my opinion, the Act itself will put an end to chemists treating this disease. That being the case, the list should be reasonable and practicable.

Dr. Cole said that if the "black list" was to be restricted to drugs and preparations specifically used for the treatment of venereal disease, objection would be taken to the inclusion of any B.P. drug.

Mr. White.—Yes.

Mr. Towl said he had obtained a list of proprietary preparations from the various wholesale houses. Ahreol capsules were included in

this list. They were frequently prescribed by doctors.

Dr. Kennedy thought it was impossible to place simple drugs on the list. If that were done, they would have to include such things as sulphate of zinc and permanganate of potash.

Mr. Buckhurst considered that because there were a few chemists who stooped to certain practices they must not penalise all pharmacists. He was just afraid if they included simple drugs there would be strong opposition. In his opinion, this would be justified in view of the promises given when the Bill was before Parliament.

Proprietary Preparations.

The Chairman suggested that a start might be made with proprietary preparations.

Dr. Noyes said that on this point both sides could agree.

Major Cossar said that if proprietaries were included it would lead to good results.

The Chairman said that they might adopt a general prohibition applying to all classes of venereal disease as defined by the Act.

Dr. Noyes agreed that this would save time. He was quite willing to deal with the matter in this way in view of the limitations under which the conference laboured.

Mr. Buckhurst pointed out that it must not be overlooked that postal business was not affected by the Act. Any person could get any of the proscribed articles by writing to someone in another State. Now that the general aspect had been fully discussed, he moved as item one on the proposed Schedule:—

"All patent and proprietary medicines which are specifically recommended for the cure, alleviation or treatment of venereal disease."

This was seconded by Mr. Towl, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Bailey moved, Dr. Kennedy seconded—

"That Kharsivan and all similar synthetic organic arsenic compounds be included in the Schedule."

Carried unanimously.

Further Resolutions.

Dr. Noyes moved, Mr. Buckhurst seconded—

"That gonococcus vaccines and serums and gonorrhœal phylacogen be included in the Schedule."

Carried unanimously.

Dr. Kennedy moved, Major Cossar seconded—

"That all medicated bougies be included."

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Towl moved, Dr. Noyes seconded—

"That argyrol and all other similar synthetic organic silver compounds be added."

Carried unanimously.

Mercurials Suggested for Inclusion.

Dr. McAdam asked whether mercurials should not be included.

Mr. Bailey said that this would involve great difficulty, as mercurials were widely used for other purposes than venereal diseases.

The Chairman asked if there were any other further recommendations or suggestions.

Time to Dispose of Stocks.

Mr. Towl said that both wholesale druggists and retail pharmacists had considerable stocks of goods which would be on the black list. They had asked that reasonable time should be given them to dispose of these articles, which they had been selling uninterruptedly for many years. In some cases the stocks would last over six months.

Dr. Kennedy said he was opposed to any time limit. It would pay the State to buy the goods, and destroy them.

Dr. Noyes thought the conference should not recommend any concession in this direction. The wholesale houses were well able to look after themselves.

The Chairman said that it would be several weeks at least before the regulations were gazetted. They had to be sent to every member of Parliament, and it was quite possible that some of them might be objected to, and thus cause further delay.

Adjournment of Conference.

Dr. McAdam moved that the conference adjourn to Thursday, February 1.

Mr. Buckhurst seconded the motion, which was carried.

Vote of Thanks to Chairman.

Dr. Noyes proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Callaway for so ably presiding at the meeting. They were fortunate in securing Mr. Callaway as Chairman.

Mr. Towl said he desired to second the motion. The conference was greatly indebted to Mr. Callaway for his kindness in acceding to the request to preside over the deliberations.

The motion was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Callaway, in responding, said that if he had been of any service he was satisfied. They were all servants of the public, and the welfare of the people must be their first consideration.

The conference then adjourned.

SECOND MEETING.

The adjourned meeting was held on Thursday, February 1, 1917.

Mr. Callaway presided, and there were present Drs. Noyes, McAdam, Johnson, Kennedy, and Robertson, Major Cossar, and Messrs. Towl, Buckhurst, Gulliver, and Taylor.

On the motion of Dr. McAdam, seconded by Mr. Towl, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Suggestions of Health Department.

The Chairman said that he had shown the resolutions carried at the last meeting to Dr. Robertson, Chairman of the Board of Health. Dr. Robertson had asked whether ferrovine would be covered by the resolutions.

Mr. Towl said that it would come under Regulation 1. It was very little used.

The Secretary said that Dr. Robertson suggested the inclusion of antimonial preparations.

Dr. McAdam thought that antimony might be placed on the list.

Mr. Gulliver protested. He said that pharmacists could hardly be expected to agree to such a

proposal. The drug was used for so many purposes.

Major Cossar said that tartar of antimony was frequently used for destroying ants. It was also used in worm powders for horses.

Mr. Buckhurst said that he would not object so much to antimony prepared for hypodermic injections going on the list, but he could not accept the responsibility if other preparations of antimony were included.

Major Cossar.—Is it worth considering? No chemist would sell it for hypodermic use.

Dr. Alan Robertson said that he thought there should be a general inclusion of all drugs used in the treatment of syphilis, if the seller knew they were to be used for that purpose.

Mr. Buckhurst said that the Act provided for that.

The Conference's Decisions Final.

Dr. McAdam asked if the Conference's recommendations would be subject to review. He understood a Departmental Board was dealing with the general regulations under the Act. He thought if any amendments were made they should be considered by the Conference before being finally adopted.

Dr. Noyes agreed that the Conference should be consulted before amendments were sanctioned.

The Chairman said he had spoken to the Minister, and had informed him of the suggestion made that the Conference thought its recommendations should be accepted in the form adopted. Mr. McLeod stated that he had no intention of referring the recommendations of the Conference to any other body. He did not think the Departmental Committee appointed to consider the regulations generally had any authority to interfere with the Conference's recommendations.

Dr. McAdam.—I want to be quite assured on that point.

The Chairman.—I think you may be quite assured. It would not be a proper thing to review the decisions of the Conference which has been convened by the Minister for a specific purpose.

(No further action was taken regarding the proposed inclusion of ferrovine and antimonial preparations.)

Iodides and Mercurials.

Dr. Alan Robertson.—How are you going to deal with iodide of mercury?

Dr. McAdam.—We should include the salts and other preparations of mercury used in the treatment of venereal disease.

Major Cossar.—Calomel is very widely used for other purposes, and so is blackwash.

Mr. Towl.—How could you deal with this class of drug?

Dr. McAdam.—The only way is to throw the onus on the chemist.

Mr. Buckhurst.—It is on him already under the Act itself.

Dr. Robertson. — The chemist should satisfy himself of the purpose a drug is to be used for.

Mr. Buckhurst.—How can he? Is he to ask every customer what he wants a mercurial preparation for? It could not be done.

Proprietaries in Prescriptions.

Major Cossar.—Medical men increased the sale of specifics and nostrums by frequently prescribing them. The Tabloid habit was induced by patients seeing it written in prescriptions.

Mr. Buckhurst.—A large proportion of the prescriptions coming into my pharmacy contain one or more proprietary medicines. Is it fair to the chemist?

Dr. Robertson.—I do not think there is much of this class of prescribing.

Mr. Towl.—It is surprising how much of it there is.

The Chairman.—The discussion is digressing somewhat.

Trust the Pharmacists' Honour.

Mr. Towl.—I was about to observe that you must trust to the pharmacist's sense of honour that the spirit of the Act will be observed. Pharmacists are just as anxious as medical men to stamp out venereal diseases. They do not all look at it from the financial view, although that has to be considered. The main thing is the public good. But it must not be overlooked that there are so many drugs in general household use which might be used for venereal treatment. Such drugs certainly should not be included.

Dr. Noyes.—We recognise that. We do not wish to make the road too hard.

Mr. Buckhurst.—The pharmacist is willing to assist, but you cannot expect him to make unnecessary sacrifices. If the Conference is reasonable, it will find pharmacists doing all they can to help the medical men stamp out the disease.

Dr. McAdam.—How are they going to help if they do not know a patient is suffering from the disease?

Mr. Buckhurst.—Because the pharmacist enjoys the confidence of his customers. Great good can be done if pharmacists are placed on their honour. You must not try to do everything at once. This Conference will probably be called together again. Experience will have shown by then whether we have gone too far or not far enough.

Dr. Noyes.—The patient will not confide to the chemist when he knows the sword of Damocles is hanging over his head.

Dr. McAdam. — There will be an increasing number of individuals who will hide the disease and go to a quack.

Mr. Towl.—We are here to stop quackery. They will soon stop that if there are a few prosecutions.

Mr. Gulliver.—If you make these regulations too stringent, you will drive men to quackery, and despite all you do they will run the risk of prosecution.

Dr. McAdam.—I see great difficulty in carrying out the Act.

Mr. Towl.—The only way is for medical men and pharmacists to work together on common lines.

Mr. Gulliver.—Reform will come gradually. Patients will go to medical men, but not at first.

The Chairman.—It is the intention of the department to send a circular to every pharmacist,

pointing out his responsibilities under the Act. The policy to be adopted is to enforce the Act gradually at the start.

Mercurial Preparations Again.

Dr. McAdam said he desired to return to the subject of including mercurial preparations and salts.

Mr. Towl.—Is it necessary to legislate for every case?

Mr. Gulliver.—Surely it is not suggested that such things as calomel and white precipitate be included!

Dr. Kennedy.—They are very largely used in venereal complaints.

Major Cossar.—I think it is going too far. We might include grey oil, which is specifically used for other purposes.

Dr. McAdam moved, Major Cossar seconded—

"That grey oil and all similar mercurial emulsions specifically prepared for the cure, alleviation or treatment of venereal disease be included in the Schedule."

Carried.

Mr. Towl drew attention to the provisions of the Poisons Act, which required certain poisons to be signed for, and the sale witnessed. The entry in the Poisons Book must state the purpose for which the poison was required.

Dr. Robertson asked for the inclusion of Lotio Hydrargyri.

Mr. Gulliver said Black Wash was used for other purposes.

Dr. McAdam mentioned mercuric iodide.

Mr. Buckhurst said the latter was frequently used for eye lotions and horse blisters.

Dr. Kennedy suggested Liq. Hyd. perchlor B.P.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I sold a gallon of it to-day for painting the boards of a house infested with white ants.

Mr. Towl.—It is often used for painting bedsteads.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I sell a lot of it for the purpose of destroying hair nits.

Dr. McAdam.—I still think all mercurial preparations should go on.

The Chairman.—I do think a drug like Hyd. Perchlor should go on the list.

Mr. Gulliver said that he feared the schedule would break down if too many restrictions were imposed. They should go slowly at first. Any abuses could be remedied later on.

Dr. Kennedy.—Pill hydrarg. is frequently used for venereal troubles.

Dr. McAdam.—What is easier for a man than to get some mercury and make a pill himself?

Mr. Buckhurst.—You could not stop the sale of mercury. It would stop all mining industries.

Dr. McAdam.—Then we come to hydrarg. cum. creta.

Mr. Buckhurst.—Grey Powder has been used from time immemorial as a cathartic for children.

Dr. Noyes.—I was going to mention that myself.

Major Cossar said if a man came in for 100 chalk and mercury pills, he would not supply them.

Dr. Noyes. — B.W. and Co. and P.D. and Co. put up these pills, and they are all sold pretty extensively.

A Question of Prescribing.

Mr. Gulliver.—That class of business is most annoying to pharmacists. It has been largely developed because doctors tell patients to get these pills.

Major Cossar.—The Aspirin habit is an illustration of how a proprietary drug can be popularised by medical men prescribing it.

Mr. Gulliver.—The art of prescription writing has declined.

Mr. Buckhurst instanced two or three cases of this class of prescribing. He would welcome an earnest effort on the part of medical men to limit it. What he said he said in good faith, with due respect to those present. There might be a few pharmacists who stooped to low practices, but they must not condemn all because of the few. Medical men likewise had to deal with a certain class of practitioners. The Act was going to be abused by these so-called specialists.

Disciplinary Powers Needed.

Dr. McAdam.—We cannot deal with them, as there is no power to remove their names from the Register.

Mr. Towl.—We have limited powers over pharmacists.

Mr. Buckhurst.—If pharmacists do their part, they will expect medical men to do their utmost to stamp out charlatanism in their own ranks.

Dr. Noyes.—I think you can rely on that being done.

Mr. Buckhurst.—We are here to do our utmost to assist the Government in administering this Act. Putting grey powder on the schedule will not help. Pharmacists would feel they were being most unfairly treated.

Mercury and Its Preparations.

Dr. Kennedy.—Hydrarg. cum creta should go on.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I would accept the drug in pill and tablet form being included. That is as far as I could go.

Dr. McAdam.—You would not include the powders? That is preposterous!

Mr. Buckhurst.—I am only stating my opinion. I think we have met the medical men fairly.

Dr. Kennedy.—Blue Ointment. I would like to see it on.

Mr. Buckhurst. — It would be a very serious thing to put this ointment on the list. If a man deliberately makes up his mind to break the law, this schedule will not stop him.

Dr. Noyes.—Would you agree to biniodide of mercury

Mr. Towl.—Yes. We would also accept the tannate of mercury, and cyanide of mercury.

Dr. McAdam moved, Mr. Towl seconded—

"That hydrargyrum cum creta (and its admixtures), biniodide of mercury, tannate of mercury, and cyanide of mercury in the form of pills and tablets be added to the schedule."

Carried.

The Iodides.

Dr. Kennedy.—Pot. Iodide. What can we do about that?

Mr. Buckhurst.—We could not include it. It is so commonly used as a blood mixture.

Dr. Noyes.—I see a difficulty with the iodides. They are used for so many purposes. Is there some way in which we could prevent them being taken for the later stages of syphilis?

Mr. Towl.—I do not think that is so important as prevention in the earlier stages. They would be in the doctors' hands before they reached the Iodide stage—if I might put it that way.

Sandalwood Oil and Copaiba.

Dr. Noyes.—That disposes of the question of mercury and the iodides. There is now the question of the oleo resins, oleo balsams, including sandalwood oil, which is seldom prescribed for anything except gonorrhoea.

Mr. Towl.—Medical men use it for their sphygmomanometers.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I must certainly protest against sandalwood oil, because it is frequently used for other purposes. I know of medical men who take take it themselves for bronchial troubles. It is largely used for the purpose of perfuming soap. Many people who make their own soap purchase it from me. If you include it I know chemists will strongly protest. The Minister for Health agreed that it should not go on. He informed Parliament to this effect. With all due respect, I must differ from the medical representatives on this point. The spirit of the Act must be observed. To go too far will be to invite objection. We may make our work abortive if we include it.

Dr. Robertson.—Can you guarantee that what we have put on the schedule so far will be accepted?

Mr. Buckhurst.—I think no one will object to what we have done so far. The Association I represent will, I feel sure, resent the inclusion of sandalwood oil. Pharmacists would be justified in asking members of Parliament to object to the regulations if it is included.

Mr. Gulliver.—My feeling is we should stop where we are. If abuses arise, they can be remedied later.

The Chairman said that the Minister of Health would not be moved by outside representations. He would abide by the Conference's recommendations.

Mr. Buckhurst.—Except that it could be pointed out that he specifically referred to sandalwood oil in his statement in the House.

Dr. Robertson.—It is important that we should deal with the oleo resins.

Dr. Johnson.—The sale of sandalwood oil and copaiba in capsules and emulsions should be restricted.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I must object to these drugs being included.

Dr. Noyes.—If we allow the free oil, could we restrict the capsules and emulsions?

Mr. Buckhurst.—What about the veterinary people? I do not mind the mixture so much, but the drug can only readily be given otherwise in the form of capsules. We are treading on thin ice. I cannot do more than voice my protest.

Dr. Johnson.—I do not think either of these drugs are used very frequently for other purposes. We should not leave a loophole.

Dr. McAdam.—We must look at the main purpose for which the drug is used.

Major Cossar.—The Act itself prevents a chemist from selling it for venereal purposes.

Dr. Robertson.—The admixtures might be dealt with.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I am sorry, but I cannot agree.

Dr. Noyes moved, Mr. Towl seconded—

"That sandalwood oil and its derivatives and copaiba and its derivatives, in the form of emulsions or capsules, be added to the schedule."

Mr. Buckhurst.—I cannot guarantee that pharmacists will not protest against this. It is going further than the Minister intended. I think we have shown every consideration to the suggestions made by our medical friends.

Dr. McAdam.—Every pharmacist may not be as conscientious as you gentlemen. You represent the cream of the profession.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I acknowledge the compliment and reciprocate it, but I must think of those I represent.

The motion was carried.

Further Proposals.

Dr. Noyes.—What about cubebs?

Mr. Buckhurst.—It is used for coughs.

Mr. Towl.—It ought not to go in.

Major Cossar.—The Minister mentioned it as one that should not be included.

Dr. Noyes.—Then methylene blue?

Major Cossar.—It is used for dyes, but I do not think there would be much harm in including it.

Dr. McAdam moved Major Cossar seconded—

"That methylene blue in the form of pills, tablets, or capsules be added to the schedule."

Carried.

Dr. McAdam.—Formaldehyde and its preparations?

Major Cossar.—No.

Mr. Towl.—They are used for so many purposes.

Dr. Robertson.—Corrosive sublimate.

Mr. Buckhurst.—It would be ridiculous to include it.

Dr. Robertson.—What about salts used for injections?

Mr. Towl. — You could hardly include them. You have our goodwill, but we must not strain the schedule.

Dr. McAdam.—As there are some unprofessional men, so there may be some pharmacists who will try to break this Act. But I think we cannot legislate for every case. I do not think it is practicable to deal with the zinc salts.

The Chairman.—Are there any further suggestions?

Revising the Schedule.

Dr. McAdam.—We have no more suggestions, except that I think that this committee should be empowered to revise the schedule later on if necessary.

Mr. Buckhurst.—I think the conference should be properly constituted as a permanent advisory body to the Minister.

Dr. Noyes.—I agree with the suggestion. The medical and pharmaceutical bodies acting in har-

mony could do much to assist the Minister in carrying out the Act.

The Chairman.—It is quite competent for the conference to make a recommendation to the Minister.

Dr McAdam moved, Mr. Buckhurst seconded—

"That the Conference recommends the passing of a Regulation under the Venereal Diseases Act empowering the Governor-in-Council on the recommendation of the Conference from time to time to add or vary the list of drugs specified in the schedule."

Carried.

Publication of Proceedings of Conference.

Mr. Towl moved, Dr. McAdam seconded—

"That the Secretary be asked to forward a typed copy of the resolutions to the Minister, and to each member of the Conference."

Carried.

Dr. Noyes proposed, Mr. Buckhurst seconded—

"That a copy of the minutes be forwarded to the Secretary of the British Medical Association (Victorian Branch), with a suggestion that they be forwarded for publication to the Editor of the 'Medical Journal of Australia,' and that the 'Pharmaceutical Journal' be also asked to publish a report of the proceedings."

Carried.

Votes of Thanks.

Dr. McAdam moved, Mr. Towl seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Mr. Callaway said it had been a pleasure to preside over the deliberations of the Conference. He was very pleased to see that there had been such harmony and such unanimity, and hoped that good results would follow what had been done. He trusted that medical men and pharmacists generally would assist their leaders in their praiseworthy efforts to stamp out this disease.

Dr. Noyes moved a vote of thanks to the Secretary. He complimented Mr. Butchers on the praiseworthy manner in which he had carried out his duties, particularly in regard to the preparation of the minutes of the Conference, which were concise, clear, and accurate.

Mr. Buckhurst seconded the motion.

Mr. Butchers said that he had done his best. He had been a silent observer of the proceedings, but had followed them with great interest. He hoped the medical representatives would assist the pharmacists in stamping out quackery, and that the results of the Conference would bring about joint action to attain this end.

After light refreshments had been partaken of, Dr. Noyes proposed a vote of thanks to the pharmacists for their generous hospitality.

Mr. Towl responded. He had always endeavoured to advance the interests of true pharmacy, and he hoped their medical friends would appreciate the spirit which had actuated pharmacists all along in connection with this Act. If both bodies worked together, he felt sure it would react to the benefit of both.

The Conference adjourned *sine die*.

Pharmacists Discuss Proposed Regulations.

A meeting of pharmacists was held at the College of Pharmacy on Tuesday, January 23rd, at 8.30 p.m., to consider the proposed conference between representative doctors and pharmacists, which had been convened to draw up a list of drugs which were not to be sold under the Venereal Diseases Act except on a doctor's prescription. The meeting was convened by the Central Committee of the Metropolitan Chemists' Association. Mr. J. F. Hughes, President, occupied the chair, and there were between 30 and 40 pharmacists present.

As soon as the meeting was opened, the chairman asked Mr. Butchers to explain what steps had been taken in regard to the proposed conference. Mr. Butchers said that the President of the Pharmacy Board had been asked by the Government to confer with the President of the British Medical Association, and make the necessary arrangements for the conference. It had been decided that there should be six representatives on each side, and that an independent chairman should be appointed. The following pharmaceutical representatives had been selected to attend the conference:—Messrs. C. E. Towl and A. R. Bailey, President and Hon. Treasurer, respectively, of the Pharmacy Board; Major Cossar, President, and Mr. H. B. Taylor, Vice-President, of the Pharmaceutical Society; Mr. Frank Buckhurst, President, and Mr. G. E. Gulliver, Vice-President, of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd. Mr. W. A. Callaway, Under Secretary, had consented to preside, with the approval of the Minister of Public Health. The Conference would take place on Thursday, January 25th, at the rooms of the Pharmacy Board.

The Chairman said that the matter was now open for discussion, and he would be glad if any suggestions were made, which would assist the pharmaceutical representatives. One or two members considered that an effort should be made to have the Metropolitan Chemists' Association represented at the proposed conference.

Mr. Buckhurst explained that it had been the original intention to select two delegates from the Metropolitan Chemists' Association, but subsequently the numbers on each side had been fixed at six, and this prevented any additional representation.

Mr. Wasley mentioned that he did not think that Mr. Gulliver would be able to attend, as he was out of town.

Mr. E. G. Owen, President of the City Section, moved, and Mr. Gabriel seconded, that, in the event of any of the delegates not being able to attend, that the name of Mr. F. W. White, of Messrs. Hood & Co., be forwarded to the President of the Pharmacy Board as a delegate to represent the Metropolitan Chemists' Association. The motion was carried.

After further discussion, it was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr. Pickford, seconded by Mr. Keays, "that this meeting express its full confidence in the pharmaceutical representatives who have been appointed to attend the conference."

The question as to what articles should be placed on the stop list was then considered. A

number of suggestions were made, which it was resolved should be given effect to by the delegates if possible.

Mr. Bailey and Mr. Buckhurst, two of the delegates who were present, expressed their appreciation of the vote of confidence which had been carried, and stated that they would use their utmost endeavours to see that the suggestions were given effect to. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Venereal Bill in Tasmania.

The Chief Secretary (Hon. W. H. Lee) introduced a Bill into the Tasmanian Legislative Assembly to amend the Public Health Act, 1903, principally in the direction of regulating the Treatment of Venereal Disease. Clause 41 (c) reads:

> (1) No person other than a medical practitioner or a person acting under the direct instructions of a medical practitioner, shall attend upon or prescribe, *or supply any drug to*, any person suffering from any venereal disease for the purpose of curing, alleviating, or treating such disease. Penalty fifty pounds, or six months' imprisonment.
>
> (2) This section shall not apply to a registered pharmaceutical chemist who dispenses to the patient of a medical practitioner the prescription of such practitioner.

As drafted the above clause is very drastic, and in the interests of pharmacists requires amendment. The remainder of the Bill is based on existing legislation in Victoria and Western Australia.

The Position in Western Australia.

Two more prosecutions of pharmacists have occurred since our last issue. The evidence was on the same lines as former cases. One case was dismissed, and in the other a fine of £5 was imposed. There was a possibility of these prosecutions being stopped by the Minister, but the fact that in several instances pharmacists had been guilty of questionable practices, such as handing over to the informer a mixture and injection bearing no labels, prevented the Minister from exercising his leniency. In the face of reprehensible practices of this kind, magistrates as a rule do not require much further evidence. In some districts, pharmacists absolutely refuse to obey the law, in the hope that the Act will be amended. It is not likely their hopes will be realised, as measures of this kind have come to stay. Pharmacists can only hope to get a fair deal if they show their desire to obey the law. The Health Commissioner has shown a desire to meet the wishes of pharmacists in one direction. It is well known that many chemists receive letters from persons suffering from venereal disease, who are many miles distant from a doctor. It is proposed that in such cases the departmental medical officer will define a course of treatment which a pharmacist may supply. The pharmacist will be required at the same time to write to the patient informing him that he must see a medical man as soon as possible.

Under the Act, pharmacists were to be allowed to sell in the ordinary course of their business any drugs or medicines provided they were not recommended or prescribed for venereal purposes. The Health Commissioner does not approve of the sale by pharmacists of patent and proprietary medicines known to be prepared for the treatment of venereal disease. His contention is that if he gave the necessary approval to the sale of such medicines, it would be tantamount to countenancing breaches of that part of the Act which requires patients to promptly place themselves under the care of a doctor. It may be taken for granted, therefore, that the Commissioner will not approve of proprietary medicines intended for venereal treatment. He has promised the Pharmaceutical Council that he will notify that body of pending prosecutions.

Another development which has occurred is that in some cases medical men are supplying medicines to patients. This is viewed very seriously by pharmacists, who intend to take action, and rightly so, to bring the matter under the notice of the British Medical Association, and failing action in that quarter, to ask the Government to amend the Act. The medical profession has approved of this Act from a national standpoint. If doctors now use it for their self-interests, they must expect criticism. It is said, however, that the instances of drug selling by medical men are not many, and that there is every prospect that satisfactory steps will be taken to prevent it going any further.

British News.

AMENDED COCAINE REGULATIONS.

By an amending Order, dated December 5th, some amendments have been made in the Defence of the Realm Regulation relating to cocaine and opium, of which the following are the most important:—(1) Power is given to the Secretary of State to issue licences for the manufacture of cocaine. Any person manufacturing or carrying on any process in the manufacture of cocaine without a licence or otherwise in accordance with the conditions of the licence will be liable to a penalty. (2) A medical practitioner who gives a prescription for the supply of cocaine otherwise than in accordance with the conditions laid down in the regulation is made liable to a penalty. (3) Every article containing cocaine must be marked with the amount and percentage of cocaine contained in it. (4) Power is given to the Secretary of State to direct that any person authorised under the regulation to purchase cocaine or opium who is convicted of an offence against the regulation or against the proclamations regulating the import or export of cocaine or opium shall cease to be an "authorised person." (5) The authorisation in the case of registered chemists and druggists is limited to persons, firms, or bodies corporate who carry on the retail business of a chemist and druggist. Paragraph 1 (*b*) of the original regulations remains unaltered. It requires the prescription given by a medical practitioner to "specify the total amount of

cocaine to be supplied on the prescription except that, where the medicine to be supplied on the prescription is a proprietary medicine, it shall be sufficient to state the amount of the medicine to be supplied."

LATIN FOR THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain some time ago dispensed with the subject of Latin for the Preliminary Examination in the pharmaceutical course. At the December meeting of the General Medical Council, the question of the abolition of Latin as a compulsory subject in the entrance examination for the medical course was under consideration. Dr. Mackay said it was unwise to continue to demand Latin from candidates, seeing that the Universities of London, Liverpool, Leeds, Sheffield, and Birmingham did not consider that subject necessary. Sir John Moore considered Latin was essential. After a lengthy discussion, it was resolved that Latin should not be an essential subject for senior students, and that all Matriculation Examinations of the Universities be recognised. Decision was deferred on the question of deleting Latin from the junior entrance examination. The Education Committee was in favour of retaining it, but their report was referred back for reconsideration.

National Insurance.

Labour Party and Nationalisation of Medicine.

At the Labour Conference to be held on April 6, the following notice of motion will be discussed:—

> That this Conference strongly recommends the establishment of a National Medical Service, and that this principle be added to the Federal and State Labour platforms.

Mr. D. Napier, president of the Williamstown State Electoral Council, in lecturing on the subject, said that the present system was chaotic and wasteful. Each centre of population should have a State medical officer, whose duty it would be to keep people free from disease. Mr. Lemmon, M.L.A., strongly advocated a national medical service, which he said was also favoured by many doctors.

State Medical Service.

Dr. M. Rhodes, of New Zealand, has been busy advocating a State Medical Service. Every medical man, he says, should be engaged as a servant of the State at a salary of £400 to £1000 per annum. One medical man should be able to look after from 300 to 500 families. *The Medical Journal of Australia* ridicules the proposals, which are classified as clap-trap. It points out that the doctors would not agree to this robbing of their independence, and would struggle against the introduction of the scheme. The patients would soon find out that the practice of preventive medicine involves the adoption of measures which would be so disturbing that they would not confide in their medical attendant. The State would soon realise that the advantages of providing for a large army of salaried doctors are illusory, and that the control of preventable diseases must remain as at present in the hands of the few experts who give their lives to the study of this specialty.

London Experience of Health Insurance.

The Investigation Committee which is inquiring into the working of the British National Insurance Act has already taken some interesting evidence. Speaking for the G.U. Order of Oddfellows, the secretary said the burden cast on Friendly Societies was a heavy one. In his opinion the medical service was not satisfactory. Dr. J. Brown considered the Act to have been a failure so far as the medical portion of it was concerned. The ideal was the family doctor, not a hireling or mere contractor; not a sweated attendant, but a man paid at standard rates. He cited cases where, under the panel system, the remuneration worked out at 3d. or 6d. a visit. He knew of no country doctors who were satisfied with the fees. Dr. Henderson said the biggest blunder of all was the handing over of the administration to approved Friendly Societies. Unfair calumny, criticism and complaint had been showered on medical men by these societies. He anticipated the Government trying to foist nationalisation on the medical profession. There was a fierce struggle ahead if this were decided upon. Dr. Rees referred to the bribe of the "floating sixpence" to run the act as cheaply as possible. This resulted in the cheapest possible drugs being prescribed, and these were dispensed in the nastiest possible manner. "Stock mixtures" were what the patients got instead of Mr. Lloyd George's "rare and refreshing fruit." Friendly societies, in Dr. Rees' opinion, should be absolutely excluded from the administration.

Dental.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Board was held on 24th January.

The president (Mr. Alec. L. Elvins, J.P.) occupied the chair. Also present—Major Hall, Dr. Nicholls, Dr. Nihill, and Dr. Yule.

Arrangements were made for holding the Supplementary Examinations in February.

The Board re-affirmed their previous resolution, that, while they were willing to accept as a sufficient entrance examination for the Dental course, any examination that entitled the candidate to matriculate in the University of Melbourne, they were of opinion that Physics should be the only compulsory subject. It was decided to make further representations to the University in the matter.

An alleged case of breach of the Dental Act being brought under the notice of the Board, the Registrar was instructed to have an immediate inquiry made into the matter.

A large amount of correspondence was dealt with.

The Board adjourned.

E. Joske, LL.B., Registrar.

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Editorial.

VENEREAL DISEASES ACT CONFERENCE.

An important conference convened by the Victorian Minister of Public Health was held at the rooms of the Pharmacy Board, Melbourne, on January 25 and February 1. The conference was attended by six medical practitioners and six pharmacists, and was presided over by the Under-Secretary for Victoria (Mr. W. A. Callaway). It was convened in accordance with a promise given by the Minister during the discussion in Parliament on the Venereal Diseases Bill. It will be remembered that this Bill made provision for a schedule of drugs which were only to be sold on the prescription of a medical practitioner. Considerable discussion took place in Parliament regarding the nature of the drugs to be placed on this schedule, and Mr. McLeod assured honorable members that before anything was agreed upon he would give the pharmaceutical representatives an opportunity of stating their views on the matter. It was in pursuance of this promise that the conference was convened.

As will be seen from the official report of the proceedings of the conference, which is published elsewhere in this issue, a series of recommendations was agreed upon by the delegates. These recommendations have been forwarded to the Minister for approval. The decisions arrived at were largely the result of compromise, both sides realising that they must be prepared to give way on certain points. One important recommendation made was a request to the Government that the conference should be permanently constituted, and that no variations of or additions to the list of proscribed drugs should be made without the conference being consulted.

There was a general disposition on both sides to acknowledge the difficulties under which medical men and pharmacists respectively laboured. Notwithstanding the frank discussion which took place, a good feeling prevailed throughout the proceedings, and pharmacists found the medical delegates not averse to assisting them in several directions in which they might be of service.

A careful scrutiny of the recommendations of the conference will show that the main object of the Act was kept in mind throughout the whole of the deliberations. Parliament made it quite clear that so far as the treatment of venereal disease was concerned, it was to be restricted to medical practitioners. On the other hand, it was also plainly indicated that pharmacists were not to be prevented from selling drugs which had a dual use, provided they did so in the ordinary course of their business, and did not prescribe them for a venereal patient. These were the two parallel lines of limitation. In keeping within those lines, the conference steered a middle course, and the fact that the decisions were unanimous, and have since been endorsed by official bodies, shows that the recommendations are not regarded as unreasonable. If any hardships or abuses arise, it is proposed to call the conference together again in a few months' time to remedy them. Representatives of both bodies met on common ground in declaring that the utmost endeavours should be made by both medical men and pharmacists to assist the Government in its efforts to stamp out venereal disease. Working in harmony upon these lines, good results should follow in many directions from the holding of the conference.

Pharmacists by showing their willing loyalty to renounce all their trade in supposed remedies for

venereal disease, whether they be drugs of known character or proprietaries, must not overlook the fact that the Act has given them in return *a strict monopoly to dispense or otherwise supply all the remedies which are to be used in extinguishing the great evil.* This is an important fact, which may form a precedent for further development in other directions later on.

PRESCRIBING PHARMACISTS.

An intemperate and in our opinion, quite unjustified, letter, anonymously signed "Pro Bono Publico," appears in the *Medical Journal of Australia* of January 27, under the above heading.

The writer appears to be surprised that the public do not rise up in arms against "the outrageous and audacious system of absolute quackery, which they are subjected to at the hands of dispensing pharmacists." His fatuous reason why they do not rise up in their wrath is that "they remain in blissful ignorance."

He fears his warning will fall on deaf ears so far as the doctors are concerned, "because the facts are not well known to the profession." He becomes rather frenzied as he proceeds: "The pharmacist, who, under the cloak of his registration, poses as one who is the next best to a medical man; one who is versed in the science and arts of medicine, surgery, midwifery, diseases of women and children, together with the special branches of the eye, ear, nose, throat, etc., and fancies himself as such merely because he is by Act of Parliament qualified to dispense the prescriptions of the members of the medical profession, whereas he is no more qualified to make a diagnosis than the butcher, who, by the way, has a much more accurate knowledge of the location of the various organs of the body. All this is well known, but only by our profession." The latter paragraph is delightfully contradictory, as a few moments before he referred to the "blissful ignorance" of the profession.

His opinion is that if the Trades Hall had anything to do with the matter, they would "fix it up once and for all." Every member of the B.M.A. would vote in favour of action being taken without further ado "*to safeguard the public.*" The profession, he says, need ask no one, not even the Government, to stop the practice—they "could put a stop to all this quackery in one act." Somewhat incoherently he cryptically observes: "The move is time enough to make more plain when it has been decided to take definite action by the profession." He concludes by urging members to set the ball rolling by correspondence, drive it home, and rub it in, sound the trumpet until it is heard, and never sound the last post until the point is gained. The latter part of his letter is a delicious example of mixed metaphor. It reminds one of the well-known utterance of a British politician: "Gentlemen! I smell a rat! I see it flying in the air! Let us nip it in the bud!"

Such irrational and ill-balanced statements as "Pro Bono Publico" makes are hardly deserving of serious criticism. The assertions in the first place are not true, and, secondly, we doubt very much if the public would tolerate the position which would be created if "Pro Bono Publico" had his way. We rather think also that the Trades Hall, if it moved at all in the matter, would act in quite a different manner to what the writer of the letter contemplates. Leading judicial utterances have made it quite clear that the pharmacist has an indefeasible right to give advice in minor cases. Very seldom is the line of demarcation exceeded. Leaders of the profession are aware that pharmacists as a body are anxious to co-operate with them in stamping out charlatanry, and it is a pity that such immoderate and misleading statements should find a place in the official journal of the profession in Australia. They are certainly calculated to undo much of the good work which medical men and pharmacists in co-operation are endeavouring to carry out. The fact that pharmacists voluntarily offered to surrender any privileges they formerly possessed in treating venereal disease, and that the various Pharmaceutical Societies have set themselves against quackery in all its forms, is a sufficient answer to the writer of the letter. Existing evils will be much harder to redress if ill-tempered writers such as "Pro Bono Publico" are allowed to give vent to their spleen in so unseemly a manner. To say the least, the language used is ungentlemanly, and hardly becoming to a professional man.

Births, Marriages & Deaths.

BIRTH.

SPY (nee Doris N. Findlay).—On the 25th January, at Windsor, N.S.W., the wife of Arch. Spy, chemist—a daughter.

DEATH.

DIED ON SERVICE.

CHAPMAN.—On the 27th January, died of wounds, somewhere in France, Lieutenant Alick Atkinson, dearly loved husband of Flora Chapman, "Alwyne," 14 Goodall-street, Auburn.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

FELLOW MEMBERS!

Reserve Two of your Votes for

T. HISLOP DICK

AND

JOHN K. WILSON

And thereby help to infuse new blood into the governing body of your Society.

(Signed) JOHN K. WILSON.

Burwood, 16th February, 1917.

LACTOGEN

THE **NATURAL MILK** FOOD FOR **BABIES, INVALIDS,** AND PERSONS OF WEAK DIGESTION.

LACTOGEN is prepared from pure full cream milk, suitably modified by addition of cream and lactose, so as to approximate human milk as closely as possible in nutritive properties and digestibility.

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The FAT is present in a thoroughly emulsified condition, so that it is very readily digestible.

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The Month.

Co-operative Buying.

Reducing the cost of purchasing is even more essential to the successful business man than increasing the price of the articles he sells. Every pharmacist knows this can be done by buying in large quantities, but the problem is how to give practical effect to this axiom. Large buying to a man who has small sales is not profitable. But it may be profitable if several pharmacists combine and buy together. The initial difficulty here is to ensure that all in the buying syndicate are men of integrity and financial standing. Starting on this basis, the second danger point is to know when to stop. Many co-operative concerns which have started well in a small way have been wrecked by over-zealousness. It is a well-known fact that dispensaries and hospitals obtain concessions in prices from wholesalers because they buy in large parcels. They are able to do this because they have a large turnover concentrated in one centre. The problem, therefore, of redistribution to other retailers, none of whom are probably in a large way of business, does not affect them. But even to a group of retailers this problem has not been found insuperable. The key note of successful buying is confidence amongst the members of the syndicate and the appointment of a good business man at the head. It goes without saying that any movement which can reduce the prime cost of goods is worth trying, even if only in a small way.

The State's Obligations to the Pharmacist.

A proper commensurate return for the professional services rendered to the public is a right which every pharmacist is justified in demanding from the State. The pity of it is that, whilst the State demands from the pharmacist a high degree of skill and competency, it does not ensure for him an adequate opportunity to earn the wherewithal to live. To fill in the gap thus created, the pharmacist is forced to develop other lines of business, and if he is successful he is congratulated on his success as a general merchant. To get the best out of pharmacy, pharmaceutical service should in itself provide a living profit. Unfortunately, it is the other way round. More often than not professional pharmaceutical service only accounts for ten per cent. of the pharmacists' business. There is only one way to remedy this, and that is by getting back the business which at present goes to outside channels. Do not think this cannot be done. Specialisation is going on from day to day. Dispensing by medical men is nothing like what it used to be twenty years ago. Modern legislation is tending to eliminate many of the avenues of exploitation formerly open to the quack and charlatan. This tendency must go on, and the next ten years will show greater improvement still if pharmacists are united and remain true to the best traditions of the craft. Ultimately the State must realise that if the public is to get the best possible service, it must concentrate in the hands of those specially trained for the purpose the whole of the business in drugs and medicines.

Progress Dependent on Ideals.

In his annual presidential address to the members of the Victorian Society of Chemical Industry, Mr. John Booth, M.C.G., B.Sc., referred to the necessity of industrial concerns utilising more fully the services of the expert chemist. If the country was to go forward, a greater realisation of this fact was necessary. To realise this aim two things were necessary. Chemists must take a large and elevated view of their work and their position in the great human organism. They must have and keep before them high ideals of industrial chemistry, and having set up such ideals, they must be and remain worthy of them. To him it seemed that the elevation of their members, even financially, was not to be attained so much by the formation of anything of the nature of trade unions, as by realising and getting others to realise the true value of the industrial chemist to the national welfare. The Society did this by affording opportunities for receiving and giving mutual help. Friendly co-operation and relations should exist between all allied Societies. They were in the midst of war and trouble, and the days were dark; but there was an inheritance of honourable duty lying before them, and it was for all of them to take up those duties, and go on to their inheritance.

Rubber Stamp not a Written Signature.

The Medical Act, 1916, of Victoria, requires all written prescriptions to be dated and bear the address and usual signature (including the surname) of such practitioner. Some doctors are using rubber stamps on prescriptions as a compliance with this Act. It is doubtful if this practice complies with the Act. A rubber stamp in script or ordinary type would not be a signature at all. If the signature were a reproduced facsimile, the purpose of the Act could be defeated by a person taking such signature to any rubber stamp maker and without any difficulty purchasing a signature stamp. There is a judicial decision which has a bearing on the matter. The drawer of a cheque instead of signing it, stamped it with a facsimile rubber impression. When the cheque was presented the bank refused to pay on it. The drawer took legal action to compel the bank to pay. The court held that the bank was justified in refusing to accept the rubber stamp facsimile as the drawer's "signature."

New South Wales.

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of this Board was held at the Board Room, Richmond Terrace, Domain, Sydney, on February 13th.

Present—Mr. F. P. J. Gray (in the chair), and Messrs. T. S. Loney and W. Short. Apologies were received from absent members.

Chamberlains Limited wrote calling the Board's attention to statements made by certain storekeepers to the effect that the Inspector of the Board had warned storekeepers against selling Chamberlain's Pain Balm when this preparation contained no scheduled poison.

The Registrar stated that the inspector had done no such thing. He warned the storekeepers against selling a colic and diarrhoea mixture, and took samples of Chamberlain's Pain Balm for analysis by the Government Analyst in order to confirm the statement that this preparation did not contain poison. It was directed that a reply stating what the inspector had done be sent to Chamberlains Limited.

Complaint against a Chemist.—A doctor at Orange (N.S.W.) wrote to the Chief Secretary's Department, complaining that Mr. Alleyne Farr refused to make up his prescriptions. The complainant was a duly qualified medical practitioner, but was not a member of the B.M.A. He contended that Mr. Farr in refusing to make up the prescriptions was exceeding his powers and should be dealt with. He asked for justice. The registrar stated that he had informed the Chief Secretary's Department that Mr. Farr was a duly qualified and registered pharmacist, and was a gentleman of high standing and reputation in his profession. He laid before the Board a copy of the correspondence. The letter to the doctor stated that Mr. Farr was duly qualified as a pharmacist and was entitled to exercise his discretion. Regarding the latter portion of the letter, it was "not regarded as calling for action by the Department." The correspondence was received.

"Rasmusson's Pharmacy."—Mr. H. Macauley, pharmacist of George-street, wrote calling attention to an advertisement by Mr. Rasmusson, and asking if it did not constitute a breach of the Pharmacy Act. It was decided to submit the question to the Crown Law Office for legal advice and opinion.

Phosphorus.—The Registrar laid on the table a copy of the Proclamation published in the New South Wales *Government Gazette*, No. 10, of January 25th, which placed this substance among the poisons in the first part of the second schedule of the Poisons Act. Mr. Loney said that this would place the sales of this dangerous substance in a more satisfactory position, and would afford additional protection to the public.

Treasurer's Statement.—This showed the sum of £175 6s. 4d. to the credit of the Board. Accounts amounting to £43 4s. 1d. were passed for payment. This amount included costs of the Inspector under the Poisons Act.

War Loan.—A letter was received from the Chief Secretary's Department inviting investments of any spare funds in this fund. Mr. Short said that unfortunately the Pharmacy Board had no spare funds to invest, except what they might do individually. He suggested that they should pass the letter on to the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and perhaps there the matter might be considered at the next Council meeting. Mr. T. S. Loney seconded the proposal. Personally he had invested in this fund, and had done his duty. He expected that other members who were in a position to do likewise had also made similar investments.

Registration under Pharmacy Act.—Mr. Thos. Edward Dixon, of Ashfield, a pharmaceutical chemist of Ireland, applied for registration as a pharmacist, and forwarded all the required papers. Registration was granted.

Pharmacists' Poisons License.—Application was made by T. E. Dixon, of Ashfield, for licence under the Poisons Act, and the same was granted.

Annual Poisons Licenses were granted to five new applicants, and 217 old licenses were renewed for the ensuing twelve months.

Registration of Indentures. — Duncan Hugh Frazer, to Martin Meagher, of Sydney, term 3 years; Henry Chas. Potts, to V. H. Olson, of Kogarah, term 4 years; David John Maurice, to J. MacClean, of McLean, term 3 years; Stanislaus Doyle, to L. A. Gideon, of Paddington, term 3 years; Joseph Mayer Levy, to C. J. Peterkin, of Sydney, term 4 years.

The Board adjourned.

Phosphorus: A Poison in New South Wales.

The following Proclamation appeared in the State Government "Gazette," No. 10, of January 25th, 1917:—

PROCLAMATION.

New South Wales, to wit.—By His Excellency Sir Gerald Strickland, Count della Catena, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor of the State of New South Wales and its Dependencies, in the Commonwealth of Australia.

(L.S.) G. Strickland, Governor.

Whereas it is considered expedient that the substance called "Phosphorus" should be declared a poison within the meaning of the "Poisons Act, 1902," and be placed under the same restrictions with respect to the sale and use of poisons as substances mentioned in the first part of the Second Schedule of the said Act: Now, therefore, I, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council, and by virtue and in exercise of the powers conferred by the said Act, do hereby declare that from the date hereof, the said substance shall be deemed to be a poison within the meaning of the said Act, and be added to the

list of poisons mentioned in the first part of the Second Schedule of the said Act.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the said State, this tenth day of January, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and in the seventh year of His Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. C. L. FITZPATRICK.

God Save the King!

Pharmaceutical Council Election.

The retiring members are Messrs. Goldrick, Penrose, Schofield, and Captain Wadsworth. With the object of bringing about an election, Messrs. T. Hislop Dick and John K. Wilson have also been nominated. The contest promises to be a keen one, as the new-comers are well-known in the metropolitan district as keen and enthusiastic pharmacists. On the other hand, they are opposing two experienced councillors in the president (Captain Wadsworth) and the vice-president (Mr. E. C. Schofield). Mr. Penrose has represented Newcastle and surrounding districts since 1913, and sits in the Council as a country member. Mr. T. M. J. Goldrick is a new member of the Council, having recently been co-opted to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. F. Lloyd's resignation.

Plant Diseases.

Owing to the wet season, Sydney orchardists have been troubled with "black spot" and "brown rot." The former has attacked the apples, and the latter the plums, nectarines and the peaches. Two methods of treatment have been experimented with. The solution of sulphur and lime as a spray is said to have proved excellent in some instances, while other orchardists have had equally good results from the use of the Bordeaux Mixture spray. One of the chief features of the recent treatments has been that old remedies have been tried, but that no investigator seems to have hit upon any new solution that will prove more effective than the old one. Here is a field in which chemists may profitably turn their attention, as an improved spray would find a rich market.

Children's Health.

Dr. Willis, medical officer in charge of the work of examining and advising children's parents regarding their health in connection with the public schools, has issued a circular to parents showing the urgent need of the children receiving proper attention while they are young, giving particulars as to the nature of the medical examination that a child has to undergo, and inviting parents to be present when such examination is made, so that they may be convinced that it is satisfactorily conducted, and at the same time to secure the parents' co-operation with regard to the subsequent treatment of the child.

Many parents object to this examination, and contend that the family doctor looks after the health of the children. The free advice to parents is not meeting with the entire approval of the medical profession, who contend that many parents who can quite well afford to pay for professional services get them thus for nothing. There is also the question "If the children are to be provided with free medical advice and surgical treatment, why not in many cases also provide free physic, as the advice is useless if the parents will not pay for the medicine?" In this matter, the pharmacists will have something to say.

Deaths Under Anæsthetics.

During the year 1916, according to the Sydney City Coroner's report, there were only two deaths from anaesthetics in the metropolitan area. This is accounted for by two ways, the principal one being that special instruction in the administration of anaesthetics is now given at Sydney University. This has been done for the past four years, and the result has been that the medical profession of to-day are better trained in this work than they were formerly. Even men already qualified have taken the special course in this subject, and thus the skill and experience gained has had a gratifying result. The second reason is that more locally manufactured anaesthetic aether is used, and less of the imported article. The anaesthetic aether prepared in Sydney is of a high standard of purity, and in consequence of the war, is often found in hospitals far distant from Australia. One Victorian doctor said that he first used Australian-made anaesthetic aether in Gallipoli. He was prejudiced against it, but it was all that he could get. He said that he got splendid results with it, and has ever since preferred it to other makes.

Snake Bite Cases.

Although snake bite cases have been frequent, fatalities have been rare throughout New South Wales. Recently at Parramatta, "Professor Morrissey" was giving an exhibition of snake charming and snake bite antidote which he has discovered, and which he asks the Government to acquire. His assistant offered to allow the snake to bite him, but the snake refused, so the man thrust his finger in the snake's mouth while Morrisey stood on its tail. Then the snake bit, and the assistant was hurried off to the local hospital for treatment.

While a crate of snakes was being conveyed in a cart down George-street, Sydney, recently, near the Sydney Town Hall, one of the reptiles escaped. A labourer picked it up and was severely bitten. He was taken to Sydney Hospital, and quickly recovered after treatment. Country chemists are stocking the snake bite outfits, consisting of a lancet and supply of potas permang in box wood or metal cases, retailing at 1s. and 2s. 6d. each, and are doing a good business in them with a good profit.

The Parke-Pope Research Laboratory.

During the year 1915, Mr. Parke W. Pope (chairman of directors of Messrs. Farmer and Co., Sydney), donated the sum of £100 to the Sydney Technical College Chemical Society, for the purpose of carrying out researches in the domain of the chemical composition of products of Australian plants. The object is to find out the useful materials that may be obtained both

for use in the arts as well as for medicinal purposes.

A committee to deal with the matter was appointed at the time by the Society at one of the meetings of members. This committee consisted of Messrs. H. G. Smith, F.C.S., R. W. Challoner, F.I.C., F.C.S., A. D. Olle, F.C.S., Dr. T. Guthrie, Mr. E. G. Jacobs, with the secretary, Mr. A. R. Penfold, F.C.S. This committee approached the Superintendent of Technical Education, Mr. Jas. Nangle, with a view to obtaining a suitable room to house the gift, with the result that suitable quarters for the laboratory were provided for the Society, and the department also agreed to supply the necessary electric lighting, gas, steam, and reagents.

All preliminary work having been completed, the laboratory was formally opened at a function held in the Turner Hall on February 20th, at 8 p.m.

The laboratory will be known as the Parke Pope Research Laboratory of the Sydney Technical College Chemical Society. It is hoped that the work thus started will be so successful that other generous citizens interested in scientific research will either assist in the cost of extending the work or will establish other laboratories for research in other directions, with a view to developing the resources of the country.

Members of the Society carrying on work at this laboratory will, of course, be expected to conform to the rules of the Technical College. A Special Committee of Management, consisting of two representatives of the Society (Messrs. H. G. Smith and R. W. Challinor), the Department of Chemistry (Dr. R. K. Murphy), and Mr. A. W. Olle (representing Mr. Parke W. Pope) will have charge of the laboratory.

The Council of the Society desire to express their indebtedness to Mr. Nangle for the substantial help received from the Technical Education Department, and to thank the wholesale houses and especially Elliott Brothers Limited for generous treatment in the matter of the purchase of the equipment. It is expected that the results of work carried on in this laboratory will result in valuable discoveries being made by members of the Society, who obtain permission to carry on researches.

Eradication of Pests

A number of experiments have been recently tried in New South Wales for the destruction of the flies which are "blowing" vast numbers of sheep. The full results have not yet been published but the process that appears to be answering the best is the saturation of a dead animal with arsenite of soda, and allowing the flies to settle on it. The arsenite preserves the carcase, and it only requires to be kept moist to destroy enormous quantities of flies. Another process is allowing milk to undergo a peculiar process of fermentation, in which condition it is extremely attractive to the flies. The "bait" is placed in wire cages, in which the flies collect, and from which they have to be destroyed. Bushels of flies have been thus collected and destroyed, but the arsenical bait is the most convenient, and the least expensive. Strange to say, the cause of the fly plague is said to be due to the use of rabbit poisons. The dead rabbits provide breeding places for the flies, and at the same time the poison baits for the rabbits has caused immense destruction of the small birds, who formerly were the natural enemies of the flies.

Experiments for the destruction of the codlin moth by the use of sheep manure have proved entire failures. This was anticipated by the scientists who had charge of the matter, but certain orchardists positively affirmed that they had freed their orchards from the codlin moth by the use of this manure, and so the officers of the Department of Agriculture were instructed to give the process a trial. The orders now are to go back to the process of spraying with arsenite of lead. Experiments with this poison prove that the moist precipitate is far more efficacious than the powder. The moist paste is capable of a finer subdivision in the spraying, and the same amount of poison can be spread over a far larger area, and has a more penetrative character, as well as being less liable to be removed by wind or rain than when ever so fine a powder is employed. The precipitate should be collected in a filter press, and the moist cake kept moist by being stored in earthenware vessels or glass jars.

The fumigation of ships in Sydney Harbour by a special steam launch kept for the purpose by the Sydney Harbour Trust has resulted in the destruction of not only the rats and mice, but also the cockroaches and minor horrors of insect life that are found in ships from foreign parts. The fumigation is with hydrocyanic acid gas, and is similar to the process used in the treatment of fruit trees.

Domain Venereal Clinic.

The erection of buildings for a Venereal Clinic in connection with Sydney Hospital has met with great opposition, as the citizens object to having any more of their great park filched from them. The excuse that it is only a temporary building that is proposed to be erected is equally objected to, as in 1879 a large, unsightly galvanised-iron annexe was erected as a temporary building to an exhibition, and it stood there for 30 years. The proposal now is to take the nurses' quarters of the hospital and use the buildings as a Venereal Clinic Department, giving the nurses quarters in Richmond-terrace, an old terrace of houses now used as Government offices, in the Domain. In these buildings are now housed the Medical Board, the Dental Board, the Pharmacy Board, the Pharmaceutical Society, the State Children's Relief Board, the Aborigines' Protection Board, and several other important public bodies. No provision has yet been made for the accommodation of these boards when they are turned out of Richmond-terrace.

Mortality among Fishes.

Large numbers of dead fish are found floating in Sydney Harbour, and especially in the reaches of Lane Cove River and Middle Harbour, and the attention of the scientists of the Fisheries Department has been directed to the matter. The expert opinion obtained is that the deaths do not

arise from anything flowing into the harbour from any factories, such as chemical works or any other factories, but is due to the waters of the shallow stretches becoming very warm at the end of the summer, and the generation of a considerable quantity of carbon di-oxide from the muddy bottoms. This gas promotes the growth of various fungi and minute organisms, which deprive the water of part of its oxygen in solution, and also favour a parasitic growth in the gills of certain of the common fish, such as mullet and black fish. Thus the fishes die from a deficiency of oxygen in the water, combined with a defective power in the gills to absorb what oxygen has been left in solution. The cure will come in with the winter season.

Some years ago Sydney Harbour was visited with an invasion of a specie of coral insect, which caused great destruction among the oysters on the foreshores of Sydney Harbour.

Poisoning Cases.

Daisy Fly-Killer.—Death from poison accidentally administered by himself through drinking portion of the contents of a "Daisy fly-killer" on December 26 was the verdict of the Acting Coroner, Sydney, on January 13, at the conclusion of an enquiry into the death of Ian Hamilton Ferguson, aged 16 months.

Cyanide.—A strange case of poisoning was investigated at the Coroner's Court, Sydney, on February 14th. The Coroner held an inquiry concerning the death of R. Jarvis, a ship's steward, who was found dead on board one of the Union Steam ships on February 11th. The evidence showed that the ship was in the hands of the fumigators, and all doorways were carefully sealed up after a strict inspection, and due notice to all persons on board. The fumigators placed the bowls of cyanide in proper positions, poured on the dilute sulphuric acid, and hastily retreated, allowing the poisonous fumes to penetrate through the ship. On re-opening the doors deceased was found dead near one of the doors. According to the evidence, he must have entered by forcing open one of the doors after the fumigators had begun work. He then tried to escape by another door, and was overcome by the fumes, as in the morning the sealing and lashings of one of the doors was found to have been broken, and deceased was found near another door. Dr. Corlette said that numerous cases of persons being overcome by the fumes and recovering were on record. The men using the fumigators did not suffer, as they were experienced, and knew the danger. A gas helmet was a complete protection to the men. A verdict of accidental death was recorded. While the fumes when concentrated produce instant death, the rapidity seems to depend upon the degree of their dilution with the air. The process has proved a complete success, and a vast sum has been saved by the destruction of rats, which once infested Sydney wharves and warehouses. The treatment was originallly intended to combat the dangers arising from the presence of the plague rats in the shipping.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on Wednesday, February 14.

Present—The President (Mr. C. E. Towl) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Gulliver, Jewkes and Sayer.

Returning Officer's Report.—Mr. Samuel Baird, the returning officer, forwarded a report declaring Messrs. W. H. Fleay and Charles E. Towl to have been duly elected members of the Board without opposition on January 18, 1917.

The Registrar reported that in accordance with the provisions of the Medical Act the returning officer's report had been forwarded to the Chief Secretary, who advised that at a meeting of the Executive Council held on January 25, the retiring members were reappointed as members of the Board for three years from 1st February, 1917, and that a notice to this effect appeared in the "Government Gazette" of February 7.

Mr. Fleay, speaking on behalf of Mr. Towl and himself, said they greatly appreciated the honour which had been conferred upon them by their re-election for a further period. He took it as a compliment that there was no opposition, and he trusted that during the forthcoming term they would both be able to continue to do good service for the Board.

On the confirmation of the minutes the offices of president and honorary treasurer became vacant by effluxion of time, and Mr. Bailey was voted to the chair.

Election of President.—Mr. Buckhurst moved, Mr. Sayer seconded, the re-election of Mr. Towl as president for the ensuing year. There being no other nomination, Mr. Bailey declared Mr. Towl duly re-elected.

Mr. Towl then resumed the chair, and thanked the members of the Board for their continued confidence in him. This was the fifth successive year in which he had been elected president. He had always endeavoured to carry out his duties with a due sense of the responsibility attaching to the position. Each year the work of the Board appeared to be growing more onerous, and it required a good deal of attention. If he could render any service in the capacity in which he had been elected he assured the members he would be glad to do so.

Election of Hon. Treasurer.—Mr. Buckhurst moved, Mr. Fleay seconded, that Mr. A. R. Bailey be re-elected hon. treasurer. Mr. Bailey thanked the members for their continued confidence. Like Mr. Towl he had now filled this position for five years, and he was quite willing that some other members should hold the office if they desired to do so.

Correspondence.—Letters outwards, Nos. 1 to 144, were minuted and included the following:—

Mr. George Lorimer, Drouin, asking if he could furnish any information respecting a case of supposed poisoning by arsenate of lead. Mr. Lorimer replied that the evidence given at the inquest was not conclusive, and it could not, therefore, be definitely said that the death oc-

curre l owing to the eating of apples sprayed with this poison.

Mr. Fleay thought that the registrar should continue to make inquiries in regard to any simila cases which arose. There was an uneasy feeling that owing to the loose manner of preparing arsenical preparations, poisoning cases of the nature referred to did occur. Mr. Gulliver said that he did not think that if a standard arsenate of lead was used anybody could be poisoned by eating fruit which had been sprayed with it. Mr. Sayer pointed out that the trouble was that people often mixed their own spraying solutions, and did not understand how to do this properly. The registrar was instructed to collect further evidence on the subject.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary, forwarding a copy of the audited financial statement of the Board, together with the annual report for 1916.

The Melbourne U.F.S. Dispensary, stating that a complaint had been received that the name of the registered chemist in charge of the North Carlton branch was not being exhibited as required by the Board's regulations. A reply was received stating that the manager's name was displayed in large letters inside the waiting room of the dispensary. It was considered that this was a compliance with the regulation.

Mr. James Clark, Hawthorn, wrote applying for permission to be allowed to attend the special course of evening lectures, pending confirmatory evidence of his having served a prescribed term of apprenticeship to a pharmaceutical chemist in Edinburgh. He submitted a statutory declaration that he had passed the preliminary examination, served an apprenticeship for four years, and attended a course of lectures at the East Edinburgh School of Pharmacy. It was resolved that the application be granted. A similar request from Mr. H. L. Atkinson was granted subject to the production of a preliminary examination certificate from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

A communication was received from a pharmacist bringing under notice a case of a private arrangement between a doctor and a pharmacist whereby a prescription written by the doctor could only be dispensed by a chemist who had his private formulæ Mr. Buckhurst said that this was a case which should certainly be brought before the British Medical Association. Before doing so it was resolved to write to the doctor in question, asking him if he desired to offer any statement regarding the complaint which had been made.

A country pharmacist wrote asking whether a nurse who had a slight knowledge of dispensing could dispense medicines at a convent. The reverend mother was anxious to know whether she was acting illegally in allowing the nurse to undertake dispensing duties. It was resolved that a reply be forwarded pointing out the legal position in regard to the matter, and stating that in the Board's opinion the practice was a very dangerous one and likely to lead to serious consequences.

An assistant whose apprenticeship indentures were registered in 1880, when it was not necessary to pass the preliminary examination prior to apprenticeship, wrote applying to be exempted from passing the preliminary examination. The application was deferred pending the receipt of legal opinion on the question raised.

An apprentice wrote applying for leave of absence from her duties owing to illness. She submitted a doctor's certificate and also a memorandum from her employers that they were agreeable to leave being granted. It was resolved that the request be complied with, subject to the time missed being served as an additional period at the end of the apprenticeship.

A pharmacist wrote asking whether he was acting illegally in selling catheters. A reply was forwarded stating that it was not illegal to sell these articles except in cases where it was known that they were intended to be used for an illegal purpose.

A medical practitioner wrote bringing under notice a quack remedy which was put on the market by a manufacturer as "a wonderful remedy for uric acid and rheumatism." A patient of his had paid £1 for a half ounce bottle of this alleged "cure." He had advised the patient not to take the contents of the bottle. He desired to know whether quackery of this sort could be dealt with under any law in operation in Victoria. It was resolved that the matter be brought under the notice of the Chief Secretary.

The under Secretary wrote, stating that the regulations made by the Board relative to Chemists' Apprentices on War Service had been confirmed by the Governor-in-Council and published in the "Government Gazette" of February 7.

The Chief Secretary forwarded to the Board a communication received from a country chemist enquiring whether any action was contemplated in regard to unregistered assistants. He was under the impression that the Board intended to grant registration to unqualified persons who had not passed any examination.

He also complained of the severe competition which pharmacists were subjected to, and thought that the handling of drugs and medicines should be confined to chemists who were specially trained for that purpose. It was resolved that a reply be forwarded to the Chief Secretary, stating that the Board had no intention of registering unqualified persons, and that there were no grounds for assuming that there was any intention of lowering the standard of examination in any way. All that had been done was to provide a course of evening lectures at the College to give those students who were desirous of qualifying in the usual way an opportunity of doing so. The Board was quite in accord with the suggestion that registered pharmacists did not receive that amount of protection from unqualified practice which their training and experience entitled them to.

Enrolment of Managers.—The Melbourne U.F.S. Dispensary notified that Mr. T. F. Jordan was in charge of the Bowen-street dispensary; Mr. E. E. Llewellyn of the North Carlton branch, and Mr. H. Stainer of the North Melbourne branch.

Apprentices' Indentures Registered.—The following apprentices' indentures were registered:—Aimee C. Tregear to W. C. Kernot, Geelong; Walter J. E. Blyth to T. G. Skewes, Ballarat; Home Ware to W. H. Ware, Williamstown; Marjorie H. Whitehouse to J. W. Whitehouse, Middle Park; Keith H. Dunoon to C. D. Atkinson, Kerang; Alan L. Noye to S. Morrow, Daylesford; Hilda V. Graham to A. W. L. and J. A. Jones, Caulfield; Gladys B. Leete to E. H. Leete, Murrumbeena.

Poisons Licence.—A licence under the Poisons Act was granted to Arthur Olney, of Derrinallum.

Erasure of Names.—The names of the following deceased pharmacists were erased from the pharmaceutical register:—Frederick Holmes, Launceston; Frank Lawson, North Melbourne; Robert Henry Cowl, Bairnsdale and Alick A. Chapman, who died of wounds received in France.

Police Reports.—Three cases of lysol poisoning were reported by the police and one each of arsenic, salts of lemon, phosphorus, cyanide of potassium and poisonous liniment. The provisions of the Poisons Act in each case had been dealt with.

Appointment of Auditors.—The retiring auditors, Messrs. John Bishop and F. G. Wilson, were reappointed at a remuneration of £3 3s. each for the ensuing year.

Appointment of Examiners.—The following examiners were appointed for the year 1917:—

Preliminary Examination—Mr. James Clezy, M.A.

Intermediate Examination—

Chemistry—Dr. Plowman and Mr. B. L. Stanton.

Materia Medica—Dr. F. Hobill Cole.

Botany—Rev. Canon Hart, M.A.

Final Examination—

Section 1. (Dispensing)—Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, and Gulliver.

Section 1. (Written Work)—Mr. Sayer.

Section 2. (Oral).—Messrs. Fleay and Jewkes.

Section 3.—Dr. Sidney Plowman and Mr. B. L. Stanton.

"*Consulting Chemists.*"—A communication was received from the Under Secretary forwarding an opinion from the Crown Solicitor regarding the use of such terms as "consulting chemists." "specialist chemists," etc. It was resolved that the matter be brought under the notice of the Chief Secretary with a view of some further action being taken.

Preliminary Examination Exemptions.—Three applications were received from students who had obtained distinction in a number of subjects at the Junior Public and Senior Public Examinations of the Melbourne University. In each case the applicants had not taken one or more of the compulsory subjects of the Preliminary Examination. They desired to know whether the certificates which they forwarded would entitle them to enter upon their term of apprenticeship. One of the applicants pointed out that in his opinion a qualification which entitled a candidate to enter upon any University course should be deemed sufficient to entitle him to take up pharmacy.

The president said that under the existing regulations the Board could not grant the request of the applicants. The Board, however, had power to make a new regulation to meet cases of this kind, and if such regulation were approved by the Governor in Council the applications could then be dealt with.

Mr. Buckhurst said that they were endeavouring to raise the standard of pharmacy, and he thought a very absurd position was created when they had applicants of high educational attainments, eligible to enter upon any University course, yet unable to take up pharmacy because they had not passed the Board's rigid and unelastic preliminary examination. He moved that a regulation be submitted for the approval of the Governor-in-Council giving the Board discretionary power to accept the Junior Public or Senior Public examination or its equivalent of any approved University provided that such examination included one language and one branch of mathematics and was in the opinion of the Board equal to the preliminary examination as at present prescribed.

Mr. Fleay said he had much pleasure in seconding the resolution. To his mind the present position was anomalous. To require a candidate possessing the high qualifications brought under notice to take up one or two of the compulsory subjects of the preliminary examination appeared to him to be ridiculous.

The president pointed out that the Melbourne University only required one compulsory subject, viz., Physics, for students entering upon the dental course, and for medicine the only compulsory subjects were Latin and Geometry. He approved of the resolution which, in his opinion, would have the effect of raising the standard of preliminary knowledge rather than lowering it. The motion was carried unanimously.

Pharmacists and Matriculation.—The registrar reported that he had ascertained that a regulation had been made by the University, providing that any person should be qualified to matriculate who had passed any examination in Victoria recognised by the Professorial Board after report by the Schools' Board as qualifying for matriculation.

Mr. Bailey said he thought that this new regulation paved the way to a recognition of the pharmaceutical course as a sufficient qualification for entrance to the University.

Mr. Buckhurst said he thought the Board should take some steps to bring the matter under the notice of the Schools' Board. It was resolved that the examiners in the various sections be asked to furnish a report on the value of the respective examinations and that the Government visitor to the examination be also asked to furnish an opinion on the matter. The registrar was instructed to collect this information and furnish a report to the Board at the next meeting.

Venereal Diseases Conference.—The president said that since the last meeting the Government had asked him to convene a conference of medical practitioners and pharmacists in conjunction

with the president of the B.M.A. This conference had been held at the Board's rooms, and a series of recommendations had been unanimously agreed upon. These recommendations had since been endorsed by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. In his opinion the results of the conference were likely to be very far reaching and would ultimately lead to a better appreciation of the pharmacists' position. He understood that it was intended to prepare a general regulation providing for the exception of veterinary medicines, and also excepting wholesale druggists who supplied any of the prescribed drugs to pharmacists or medical men.

Mr. Sayer moved, Mr. Fleay seconded, that the president's report be received and adopted, and that the Board express its approval of the decisions arrived at by the Conference. The motion was carried unanimously.

Prosecutions.—Registrar reported that J. Langlands and Son had been fined 5s., with £3 10s. costs, at Horsham, on February 2, for selling a preparation containing cantharides. Another case was pending at Ararat. He also submitted evidence in a further case, in which it was resolved to take proceedings.

General Business.—Arrangements for the Final Examinations were discussed and agreed to.

The hon. treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and after routine business had been dealt with the Board adjourned at 1.35 p.m.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

SIXTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Council has the honour to present the following report of its proceedings for the year 1916:—

The fifty-ninth annual meeting was held at the College of Pharmacy on the 28th March, 1916, when the report and statement of receipts and expenditure for the year 1915 were received and adopted.

Retiring Members of Council and Auditors.

Messrs. A. R. Bailey J. Champion, Walter C. Kernot, and Frederick Lee, who retired by effluxion of time, were duly re-elected without opposition, as members of the Council. Messrs. W. O. Strangward and Thomas Woodward were also re-elected auditors. Mr. Strangward resigned in June, 1916, and his partner, Mr. R. H. Shackell, was appointed to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Office-bearers.

At the meeting of the Council held on April 5th, Mr. D. A. Cossar was elected president, Mr. H. B. Taylor, vice-president, Mr. E. G. Owen, honorary treasurer, and Mr. F. Lee, honorary librarian. The following committees were appointed: — Education: Messrs. Francis, Gabriel, and Leete. Finance and Business: Messrs. Bailey, Champion, Imes, and Pickford. A.P.F.: Messrs. Adler, Bailey, Church, Parry, Rankin, and Wilson. Journal: Messrs. Cossar, Owen, and Taylor. Mr. Samuel Baird was re-appointed returning officer.

The College Staff.

The College Teaching Staff for 1916 was appointed as follows:—

Mr. A. W. Craig, M.A. — Director of the Chemical Laboratory and Lecturer in Chemistry to Dental and Pharmaceutical Students.

Mr. T. E. Turner, Ph.C.—Lecturer in Materia Medica and Practical Pharmacy to Pharmaceutical Students.

Mr. Sidney Plowman, F.R.C.S. (Eng.).—Lecturer in Botany to Pharmaceutical Students, and in Materia Medica and Pharmacy to third year Medical Students of the Melbourne University.

Mr. F. T. Parry, Ph.C. — Demonstrator and Assistant.

Mr. B. L. Stanton, Ph.C.—Lecturer, Tutorial Classes.

Mr. Craig, greatly to the Council's regret, broke down in health in July, and, acting under medical advice, he applied for leave of absence. This was granted on full salary for six months. Mr. B. L. Stanton was appointed temporarily to undertake Mr. Craig's work. Subsequently, through the courtesy of the University Council and Professor Masson, the Council was able to arrange with Dr. Heber Green, lecturer in Chemistry at the University, to complete the course in theoretical chemistry, while Mr. F. T. Parry took the students for practical work. Unforeseen expenditure, amounting to £86, for lecturers' fees, had to be incurred in order to keep faith with students, and carry out the complete course of lectures.

College Lectures.

The Lectures commenced on the first Monday in February, and continued up to the end of November.

The enrolments for the past two years were as follows:—

	1915.	1016.
Pharmaceutical	20	23
Medical	70	55
Dental	30	27
Extra Laboratory	77	54
Special Pharmacy	29	23
Intermediate Classes	18	22
	244	204

Owing to the number of students enlisting, there was a general falling off in enrolments compared with the previous year.

Intermediate Examinations.

The examinations for the Certificate of the College were held in June, September, and December. Forty-one candidates presented themselves, and of these 26 passed. No alterations were made in the examination syllabus.

College Class Prizes.

The following awards were made in December, 1916, by the examiners:—

Silver Medals.

Chemistry.—M. C. Patrick, 79 per cent.
Materia Medica.—Jean Rountree, 81 per cent.
Botany.—Jean Rountree, 82 per cent.

Bronze Medals.

Chemistry.—D. E. Robertson, 67 per cent.
Materia Medica.—H. C. Bray, 77 per cent.
Botany.—C. Broberg, 80 per cent.

Certificates of Honour.

Chemistry.—Jean Rountree, 60 per cent.
Materia Medica.—Minnie Kelsall, 75 per cent.
Botany.—Minnie Kensall, 79 per cent.

Lecturers' Prizes.

Chemistry.—M. C. Patrick.
Materia Medica.—Jean Rountree.
Botany.—H. C. Bray.

The Gold Medals were not awarded, and no entries were received for the C. R Blackett Memorial Prize.

College Prize Distribution.

Owing to the continuance of the war, the Council decided not to hold the usual Conversazione. The College class prizes were presented to the successful students by the Chief Secretary (Hon. D. McLeod, M.L.A.), at a musical evening, arranged by the Old Collegians' Association, and held at the College on May 31. The function was a very successful one, and was greatly enjoyed by those present.

Lecturers' Reports.

The work of the year is reviewed by the Lecturers in their annual reports, which were published in the *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy* for December, 1916.

Representation on the Faculty of Medicine.

Dr. Sidney Plowman was again nominated, and was appointed by the University Council, as the representative of the College on the Faculty of Medicine for the year 1915.

The Title "M.P.S.A."

A complaint having been received regarding the illegal use of the title "M.P.S.A.," the matter was placed in the solicitor's hands, and a communication was forwarded to the pharmacist improperly using the letters, stating that if the practice was not immediately discontinued, further proceedings would be taken. The pharmacist referred to wrote explaining that he had acted in ignorance, and that he would refrain from using the letters in future. Under these circumstances, the Council resolved that the proposed legal proceedings should not be taken.

Course of Evening Lectures.

A special meeting of the Council was held in December to deal with a communication from the Pharmacy Board, recommending the establishment of a special course of evening lectures to encourage those students who were eligible to attend the lectures to complete their studies, and prepare themselves for the necessary examinations. After fully discussing the matter, the Council unanimously decided to adopt the Board's recommendation to establish a class, provided a sufficient number of students enrolled. Mr. T. E. Turner was appointed lecturer.

Proposed Wages Board.

It having come under the notice of the Council that a further attempt was being made to establish a wages board for all employees in chemists' shops and dispensaries, it was resolved that steps should be taken to oppose the formation of such a board on the lines proposed at the present juncture. The Council considered that the time was inopportune to constitute a wages board. In conjunction with other pharmaceutical bodies, action was therefore taken during the closing hours of the Parliamentary session to oppose the proposed Board. The steps taken in this direction were successful.

Opium and Morphine Preparations.

At the December meeting of the Council, a communication was received from the Comptroller-General of Customs asking for an expression of opinion regarding the quantities of morphine and opium prenarations which were required in an average pharmacy for *bona fide* medicinal purposes. The department believed that the improper use of opium had been increasing in certain directions, and it was with a view of obtaining reliable data that the Council was asked to furnish its opinion. In reply to the several questions which were asked, the Council stated that pharmacists had suffered some inconvenience in consequence of the prohibition of the importation of Liq. Opii Sed and Liquid Extract of Opium (miscible), both of which (prior to the date of the prohibition order) were fairly largely used for *bona fide* medicinal purposes; that Liq. Opii Sed of definitely known strength and composition should be permitted to be imported under license, and sold by retail pharmacists subject to the usual conditions as to use; and that the approximate quantity of morphine and its salts required per annum for *bona fide* medicinal use by retail pharmacists in an average way of business was 2 ozs.

Venereal Diseases Act.

Some of the provisions of the Venereal Diseases Act, which was introduced by the Government last session, were considered to be inimical to the interests of pharmacists. Active steps were therefore taken, in conjunction with Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., and the Metropolitan Chemists' Association, to place the views of pharmacists in regard to certain clauses in the Bill, before the Government and members of Parliament. A strong deputation, which was introduced by Mr. R. G. McCutcheon, M.L.A., waited upon the Chief Secretary (Mr. McLeod), and explained to him the difficulties under which pharmacists would labour if certain drugs and preparations which were used for more than one purpose were not allowed to be sold except on a doctor's prescription. Mr. McLeod said that he was quite prepared to grant the wishes of the deputation insofar as the sale of drugs of this nature was concerned. He noticed that the de-

putation did not protest against the restriction as to prescribing for patients suffering from venereal disease. He was glad of this, because it was the intention of the Government to confine prescribing for this class of disease to medical practitioners only. When the Bill came before Parliament, the clauses referring to the sale of drugs were not considered altogether satisfactory, and further representations were made on the subject. As a result of these representations some further amendments were introduced by the Government, and were incorporated in the Act. These conceded to pharmacists the rights claimed. A further promise was made when the Bill was under discussion that before any list of prohibited drugs was drawn up, pharmacists would be consulted. Mr. McLeod also promised that, in order to safeguard pharmacists against maliciously inclined persons, he had introduced a clause that no prosecution was to take place unless authorised by the Minister. The work in connection with this Bill was of an arduous nature, and necessitated a large amount of time and attention being devoted to interviewing members of Parliament and others. The Council is of the opinion that the work done in connection with this measure must be regarded as gratifying to members generally.

High Price of Drugs.

Early in the year the rapid advance in the price of drugs was a source of anxiety to pharmacists. It was felt that some action should be taken to bring this under the notice of medical men, and also to give pharmacists an opportunity of bringing this matter under the notice of their customers by means of an official circular on the subject. With this end in view, a comparative list of prices ruling in July, 1914, and January, 1916, was drawn up, with the assistance of the wholesale houses. This list was published as a special inset in the Society's Journal, and a copy was also forwarded to the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association, and subsequently published in the Medical Journal. Appreciation was expressed in a number of quarters at the action of the Council in regard to this matter.

Enemy Trade Names.

About the middle of the year, another attempt was made to have the use of enemy trade names abolished. By direction of the Council, the matter was brought under the notice of the Prime Minister, who was requested to give effect to his promise to prohibit the use of such coined names as "Aspirin" and "Lysol." The Prime Minister's absence in England, and the subsequent political unrest which followed his return, prevented the matter being dealt with. In December, the Council fell in with the wishes of the New South Wales pharmaceutical bodies, and endorsed a protest on the question, which had been forwarded by them to Mr. Hughes. A formal reply to this protest has been received, but nothing definite has yet been decided upon.

Sale of Methylated Spirits.

A file of papers was received from the Chief Secretary's Department, in regard to the sale of methylated spirits on Sundays. The Council was asked to express an opinion in regard thereto. It was resolved to ask pharmacists not to supply methylated spirits on Sundays unless they were perfectly satisfied that the article was required for a legitimate purpose. So far as the absolute prohibition of the sale of methylated spirits on Sundays was concerned, the Council did not favour this, principally on the grounds that methylated spirits were easily obtained during the week, and that no good results were likely to follow the prohibition of its sale on Sundays.

Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference.

In consequence of the continuance of the war the meeting of the conference which was to have taken place in Hobart in January, 1916, was postponed. During the year, the conference treasurer (Mr. George Watkins) died at Brisbane. The Council forwarded a letter of condolence to Mrs. Watkins, sympathising with her in the death of her esteemed husband, who for many years had been permanently identified with Australian pharmacy. To fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Watkins, Mr. George J. Mackay, of Brisbane, was nominated as conference treasurer. The Council notes with pleasure that Mr. C. E. Towl, president of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, has been selected as president of the Chemistry (B, Section) of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science. The Society's subscription to the conference for the year 1915-16 was forwarded to the treasurer, Mr. Mackay.

Health Act Regulations.

After many delays the regulations under the Health Act dealing, *inter alia* with the labelling of drugs and other pharmaceutical preparations, were gazetted early in the year, and came into operation on the 1st May, 1916. As these regulations were of considerable interest to pharmacists, the Society obtained a supply of copies in booklet form, and forwarded one to each member of the Society. It was found that regulation 71, dealing with the declaration of certain drugs on the label, did not exempt medicines supplied on prescription or extemporaneous preparations sold by a pharmacist. Steps were at once taken to bring this matter under the notice of the Department of Public Health, with the result that this omission was subsequently rectified by an amending regulation.

Dispensing by Nurses.

It came to the Council's knowledge during the year that an effort was being made by some of the nurses at the different hospitals to have a special course in dispensing arranged for them. The idea was that they should undergo tuition in the hospital dispensaries, and that a certificate of proficiency should afterwards be issued to them. This proposal was very strongly objected to, and was officially brought under the notice of the hospitals in question, with the result that the project was dropped.

J. H. Maiden Presentation Fund.

In response to a request that the Council might see its way to forward a donation towards the

fund which was being organised to present Mr. J. H. Maiden, F.R.S., F.L.S., of Sydney, with his portrait in oils, the Council had much pleasure in donating the sum of £2 2s.

The Library.

During the year, the Society's library was catalogued, and rearranged by Mr. F. T. Parry, the demonstrator. Several new works were added to the library. The hon. librarian (Mr. F. Lee) will, at any time, be pleased to consider and place before the Council any recommendations made by members for the purchase of new books.

The College Building.

Early in the year it was found necessary to erect a shelter shed at the rear of the College building, for the accommodation of motor bicycles. When this work was being done, the City Council made a request that the yard might be asphalted. This work and sundry other improvements were also carried out during the year. The expenditure on the building account amounted to £107 12s. 2d. In addition to this, considerable repairs to the older portion of the building had to be undertaken, involving an expenditure of £51 10s. 8d.

Scholarship Fund.

At the end of the last financial year, the sum of £0 13s. stood to the credit of the Scholarship Fund in the Society's current account. This was withdrawn during the year, and transferred to the State Savings Bank, together with a sum of £10 10s., which was voted by the Council. During the year 1916, the sum of £6 13s. was received in donations from Messrs. Gadcke, Leete, Shaw, and Parry. The scholarship fund now stands at £26 18s. 5d.

Benevolent Fund.

In accordance with resolutions passed by the Council, the investments of the Benevolent Fund were changed by transferring £100 deposit receipts to the Commonwealth War Loan. The Benevolent Fund now stands at £506 13s. No calls were made on the fund during the year.

Honour Board.

The Council was very pleased to accept an offer by Mr. E. Lenthall Fisher to present an honour board to the College. This board was formally presented, and unveiled at the 59th annual meeting, and was greatly admired by those who were present. The board is handsomely designed, and forms an appropriate addition to the furnishing of the Council chamber.

Students and Training Camps.

Owing to the inconvenience caused by College students having to proceed to camps of training at different times during the year, an application was made to the military authorities to arrange for all the students to attend camp at the same time. This was not found to be possible, and as the result of further representations, all those students attending the College last year who should have gone into camp were exempted until the end of the session. The Council is endeavouring to arrange that students should be allowed to attend training camps at times which will not interfere with their lectures. It would greatly simplify matters if intending students would make their arrangements to attend a camp for training previous to the opening of the College for the year.

Evening Lecture.—Mr. S. A. Burrows kindly delivered an evening lecture on "Hormone Therapy," at the College, in July. This was greatly appreciated, and it is hoped that it will inspire other members to come forward in a similar manner during the forthcoming winter months. Dr. James Booth also gave a lecture at the College on the Venereal Diseases Bill. This lecture, which was arranged by the Metropolitan Chemists' Association, was largely attended.

Died on Service.—The Council desires to place on record the death of four past students of the College, who gave their lives in their country's service, namely:—Eric S. Bisset, J. A. E. Crawford, J. H. Symonds, and Douglas E. Towl. The loss of these young men in the prime of their life is deeply regretted, but in honour's cause they responded to the call of duty, and in their death they are not forgotten.

Pharmacists' Reserve Corps. — Owing to the continuance of the war, nothing further has been done in reference to increasing the personnel of the Reserve Corps, nor has it been found possible to secure official approval of any scheme for the practical training of those at present in the Reserve. This matter is being watched by Major Cossar, and members will be notified if any new developments occur.

Enlistment of Mr. Parry.—The College demonstrator (Mr. F. T. Parry) thought it his duty to enlist for active service during the year. Mr. Parry's services were considered by the Council to be invaluable to the students, and the military authorities were induced to consent to his being allowed to remain at the College, subject to his being called up for service if necessary at a later date.

Septol.—Mr. J. C. Pickford was appointed by the Council to watch the Society's interests in the dispute which had arisen in connection with the registration of the trade-mark "Septol." This matter was subsequently amicably arranged between the Metropolitan Chemists' Association and Messrs. Wm. Short and Son, Sydney.

Fixed Maximum Prices.—The Federal Government having adopted the policy of regulating food prices, and in pursuance thereof, a list of maximum prices for infants' and invalids' foods was gazetted. This was not deemed satisfactory to pharmacists, who were not in any way consulted. A letter of protest was therefore forwarded to the Minister dealing with this matter. Subsequently a combined deputation of pharmacists waited on the Prices Commissioner, and discussed with him the unfairness of the prices gazetted. Messrs. F. Lee and J. C. Pickford represented the Society at this deputation. Subsequently, the original price list was withdrawn, and a more reasonable one substituted.

Military Matters.—The year under review has been a memorable one, so far as pharmacists and

the Defence Department are concerned. At the beginning of the year, the first forward step was made, when Colonel Shepherd, then acting Director-General of Medical Services, issued an order, which went a long way towards redressing the grievances of military pharmacists. Colonel Shepherd recommended the appointment of a Senior Pharmacist for each State. General Fetherston, on his return from Egypt, endorsed this recommendation, and steps were at once taken to give effect to it. At the January meeting of the Council, at which Messrs. F. Buckhurst and G. E. Gulliver were present, representing Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., it was decided to nominate the President (Mr. D. A. Cossar) for the position. This nomination was approved, and Mr. Cossar was appointed Senior Pharmacist for Victoria, with the rank of Honorary Captain. This appointment did much to remedy many of the grievances under which pharmacists laboured. Persistent work in other directions was, however, still carried on, and the influence of several members of the Federal Parliament was invoked, with satisfactory results. Much of this work could not be made public, but what was done undoubtedly contributed to the reforms which were subsequently granted. A review of the position was embodied in a memorandum which was submitted to the Minister of Defence in June. This memorandum was carefully considered, and although no final reply was received, many of the suggestions were given effect to. In July, Captain Cossar was promoted to the rank of Major, and gazetted as Senior Pharmaceutical Officer. Captain W. D. Williams, who was lieutenant in charge of the Base Depot of Medical Stores, was appointed Senior Pharmacist for Victoria in Captain Cossar's place. In November, 1916, a conference of Senior Pharmacists was held in Melbourne. This was an important meeting, as it enabled the whole of the States to confer and deal with a number of matters of vital interest to pharmacists generally. While perfection has not yet been attained, still it must be admitted that the progress made during the year has been remarkable. Compared with the conditions obtaining in Great Britain and other parts of the Empire, the status of military pharmacists has been improved in a notable manner. Although a good deal of the executive work necessarily falls on the Society's officials in Melbourne, praise should not be withheld from those enthusiasts in the other States who were ever ready to assist, and who did such good work in paving the way to a satisfactory understanding with the Defence Department. From Surgeon-General Fetherston the Council has received sympathetic consideration and uniform courtesy on every occasion it has found it necessary to approach him.

The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy. — Owing to the abnormal increase in the price of printing paper, there has been a net loss of £55 18s. 11d. on the Journal for the year. Deducting the credit balance of £26 5s. 6d., the net loss on the Journal for the past four years amounts to £29 13s. 5d. This is not considered a dear price to pay for the advantages which the Journal gives. For the first three years members of the Society were supplied with copies of the Journal free of charge, on the Society's funds. Last year an arrangement was made whereby a charge of 5s. per member per annum was debited to the Society, and placed to the credit of the Journal Account. The Council has arranged for a supply of printing paper for some months ahead at an advantageous price, and has advanced £25 towards the cost of purchasing this. Numerous letters have been received from subscribers in the different States expressing appreciation at the improvements made in the Journal. Before the Council took over the Journal in 1913, the average number of pages of reading matter in each year's volume was about 382. In subsequent volumes the number of pages was as follows:—

1913	446
1914	498
1915	514
1916	570

The circulation of the Journal is now double what it was in 1913, when it was taken over by the Society.

Proposed Federal Journal.—At the invitation of the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, the Secretary visited Sydney in February, 1916, and submitted to a special committee of the New South Wales Council a scheme for the establishment of a Federal Journal of Pharmacy. This scheme was subsequently submitted to the Council of the New South Wales Society, and also to the other State Societies. The desirability of establishing a federal journal received endorsement in every State, and had it not been for the present abnormal conditions, it is believed that the scheme would have been brought into effect at the commencement of the current year. Further negotiations are now in progress with a view of giving effect to the various resolutions which were carried by the different Councils in reference to the matter. The Council firmly believes that a Federal Journal, if supported by the various Societies, will not only greatly benefit pharmacy, but will also become a profitable undertaking.

The Members' Roll.—At the end of 1916, the number of financial members stood at 414. During the year 56 new members were elected. Thirty-two members are on service, and their subscriptions have, therefore, been remitted. Life members total 64, associate members 44, and apprentice members 3. Two resignations were received and accepted during the year, and three names were erased for non-payment of subscriptions. The loss by death of the following members, some of whom have been life-long supporters of the Society, is greatly regretted:—R. S. D. Morgan, Jas. Brinsmead, R. H. Cowl, Rivers Langton, Adam Hope, F. Lawson, and J. King, Junr. The amount received in subscriptions during 1916 was £304 14s. 9d., compared with £324 in 1915.

Analyst.

Several members have availed themselves of the services of the Society's Analyst, Mr. Albert

H. Koch, and have forwarded samples for examination and report. Members who take advantage of this privilege are entitled to have simple analyses of drugs made at the rate of 5s. per sample.

Mr. Shillinglaw's Allowance.

The retiring allowance to the late Secretary, Mr. Harry Shillinglaw, has been continued during the year.

Finance.

The Society's overdraft on 31st December, 1916, was £168 12s. 6d. The College of Pharmacy overdraft (which is guaranteed by the Government) on the same date was £468 10s. 10d. The income from fees was nearly £100 less than last year. The Government grant remained at £500. £107 was expended on permanent improvements. Duly audited financial statements are appended hereto.

The Council.

One change took place in the constitution of the Council, owing to the retirement of Mr. D. Rankin, in March, 1916. Mr. Rankin had been a continuous member of the Council since 1897, and was a Past President of the Council. A special vote of thanks was passed to him for his services. Mr. Fred. Lee, Prahran, was elected to fill the vacancy, and took his seat at the table for the first time at the April meeting. Thirteen meetings were held during the year, the attendances being as follows:—Messrs. A. R. Bailey, 12; J. Champion, 12; D. A. Cossar, 10; G. Francis, 12; C. L. Gabriel, 13; C. G. Imes, 8; W. C. Kernot, 8; F. Lee (elected in April), 10; E. H. Leete, 11; E. G. Owen, 13; J. C. Pickford, 13; D. Rankin, 1; H. B. Taylor, 9. The retiring members of the Council are:—Messrs. Francis, Gabriel, Leete, and Pickford.

Donations.—The Council desires to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following donations to the library and museum:—

Mr. G. H. Bartleman.—Eighty-one coloured illustrations of English Wild Flowers, together with cheque (£4), to cover the cost of framing same.

Mr. S. Baird.—Volume I. of the new edition of Thorpe's Dictionary of Chemistry.

Mr. J. H. Maiden, F.L.S.—Census of New South Wales Plants.

Mr. G. E. Gulliver.—Thomson's Chemistry.

Mr. W. Moss.—Set of early bound volumes of Pharmaceutical Journal (London).

Mr. M. Landmann.—Colocynth specimens.

Mr. C. Hurrey—Leguminous Seed Plants.

Mr. T. Eddison.—Botanical specimens.

Mr. D. McAlpine.—Report on Bitter Pit Investigation.

The Sixtieth Annual Meeting.

In accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the 60th annual meeting of the Society will be held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on Wednesday, March 14, 1917, at 8.30 p.m., at which the annual report and financial statements for the year will be presented for adoption, and other business, of which due notice has been given, will be transacted.

D. A. COSSAR,
President.
C. L. BUTCHERS,
Secretary.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ended 31st December, 1916.

Dr.		Cr.	
To Members' Subscriptions	£304 14 9	By Balance 31st December, 1915	£137 5 0
,, Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary ...	2 12 4	,, Salary of Secretary	50 0 0
,, Rent, Pharmacy Board	15 0 0	,, Retiring Allowance, Mr. Shillinglaw ...	25 4 0
,, Interest, War Loan	13 10 0	,, Wages	60 9 6
,, Sales of Regulations	0 6 6	,, Printing, Stationery, Books, and Diplomas ...	34 0 7
,, Balance, 31/12/16	168 12 6	,, Supply of Journal to members	100 0 0
		,, Advance for Printing Paper	25 0 0
		,, Gas and Electric Light Rates	6 10 0
		,, Bank Interest	7 2 6
		,, Insurances	2 8 6
		,, General Charges	2 2 0
		,, Auditors' Fees	6 6 0
		,, Stamps, Exchange, and Petty Cash ...	13 0 0
		,, Travelling Expenses	9 15 0
		,, Interstate Military Conference	6 3 6
		,, Telephone	2 9 6
		,, Election Expenses	1 1 0
		,, A. P. Conference Subscription	4 4 0
		,, Donation, J. H. Maiden Presentation Fund ...	2 2 0
		,, Scholarship Fund	9 13 0
	£504 16 1		£504 16 1

Benevolent Fund.

Dr.			Cr.	
To Balance, 31/12/16			By Balance, 31/12/15	£489 12 4
War Loan	£400 0 0		,, Interest on Fixed Deposit	15 15 0
Savings Bank	106 13 0		,, Interest, Savings Bank	1 5 8
		£506 13 0		
		£506 13 0		£506 13 0

Scholarship Fund.

Dr.		Cr.			
To Balance, Savings Bank, 31/12/16	£26 18 5	By Balance, 31/12/15			£9 13 0
		,, Donations—			
		C. Gadcke	£3 10 0		
		E. H. Leete	1 1 0		
		D. Shaw	1 1 0		
		F. T. Parry	1 1 0		
				6 13 0	
		,, Grant, Pharmaceutical Society		10 10 0	
		,, Interest, Savings Bank		0 2 5	
	£26 18 5			£26 18 5	

Equipment Fund.

Dr.		Cr.	
To Balance, 31/12/16	£6 3 0	By Balance, 31/12/15	£6 3 0

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, MELBOURNE.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ended 31st December, 1916.

Dr.		Cr.	
To College Fees	£1,063 3 0	By Balance, 1st January, 1916	£189 15 0
,, Government Grant	500 0 0	,, Salaries Teaching Staff	1,109 18 0
,, Examination Fees	84 0 0	,, Secretary's Salary	100 0 0
,, Donation College Furniture	4 0 0	,, Wages	190 0 0
,, Donation Scholarship Fund	6 13 0	,, Retiring Allowance, Mr. Shillinglaw ...	25 4 0
,, Balance, December 31, 1916	468 10 10	,, Printing, Stationery and Books	70 4 0
		,, College Apparatus, Drugs, Chemicals, etc. ...	88 4 11
		,, Expenditure on Building	107 12 2
		,, Repairs to College Property	51 10 8
		,, Examiners' Fees	51 14 0
		,, Gas and Electric Light	11 2 3
		,, Bank Interest	8 10 0
		,, Rates	10 8 0
		,, Insurances	10 12 7
		,, General Charges	3 19 1
		,, Auditors' Fees	6 6 0
		,, Stamps, Exchange, and Petty Cash ...	29 10 0
		,, Typewriter	12 10 0
		,, Advertising	11 11 0
		,, Travelling Expenses	4 8 8
		,, College Class Prizes	10 16 3
		,, Telephone	2 9 3
		,, Furniture	2 18 0
		,, Election Expenses	1 1 0
		,, Scholarship Fund	16 2 0
	£2,126 6 10		£2,126 6 10

AUSTRALASIAN JOURNAL OF PHARMACY.

Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1916.

Liabilities.			Assets.			
Sundry Creditors		£32 17 10	Cash in Bank			£13 15 4
Pharmaceutical Society—			Sundry Debtors, after providing for bad debts			264 16 3
Purchase Account ..	£100 0 0		Commission paid in advance			24 12 8
Working Account ..	249 19 10		Goodwill, at cost			100 0 0
	..	349 19 10	Profit and Loss Account—			
			Loss for 12 months	55 18 11		
			Less Credit Balance 31st December, 1915	26 5 6		
					29 13 5	
		£432 17 8				£432 17 8

Profit and Loss Account, for the year ended 31st December, 1916.

To Printing, Stationery, Editorial, Commission, Postages, General Expenses, and provision for bad debts	£715 16 0	By Advertisements, Sales, Subscriptions, &c. ..	£659 17 1
		,, Net Loss for 1916	55 18 11
	£715 16 0		£715 16 0

Audited and found correct.

THOS. WOODWARD, F.C.P.A.
R. H. SHACKELL, F.I.A.V. } AUDITORS.

Melbourne, *25th January, 1917.*

EDWD. G. OWEN, HON. TREASURER.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on February 7 at 10.30 a.m.

Present— The President (Major Cossar) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Champion, Gabriel, Kernot, Leete, Owen, Pickford, and Taylor. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. Francis, Imes and Lee.

Correspondence.—To the Federal Prices Commissioner, forwarding a list of representative pharmacists who would be available to give evidence if required on any matter affecting the retail prices of articles stocked by chemists.

The Honourable the Premier, setting out the Council's views in reference to the proposed Wages Board.

Mr. A. Kenny, Albert Park, conveying the resolutions of the Council in reference to the establishment of a special course of evening lectures at the College.

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, forwarding copy of the financial statement of the College of Pharmacy for the year 1916.

Customs Department, asking for a copy of the new regulation altering the standard of composition of infants' foods.

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania explaining the provisions of the Victorian Venereal Diseases Act.

Letters Inwards.—Mr. G. H. Bartleman, North Fitzroy, forwarding two pieces of apparatus and an ophthalmascope, which he suggested might be of some service to the College. It was resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Bartleman for his donation.

Customs Department, acknowledging receipt of the Council's communications in reference to morphine and opium, and stating that when the matters referred to therein had been determined, the Council would be informed of the Department's decision.

Commonwealth Prices Commissioner, stating that he would be glad to avail himself from time to time of the assistance of the pharmacists mentioned in the Council's communication.

Mr. Philip Wheeler, Frankston, wrote congratulating the Council on the high standard of excellence of recent numbers of the journal.

Dr. Sydney Plowman asked if the Council could see its way to alter the time of the commencement of the chemistry lectures from 9.30 to 9.45 a.m. It was resolved that Dr. Plowman's request be granted.

Mr. V. A. Wawn, Sydney, wrote stating that he had given instructions that the letters "M.P.S.A." were not to be used in his advertisements until further notice.

Mr. F. W. Every Foster, wrote stating that in view of the critical times ahead he trusted that pharmacists generally would see the necessity of becoming members of the Society and thus strengthen the hands of the Council in the praiseworthy work it was doing in the interests of pharmacy.

Assistants' Half-Holiday.—The Secretary stated that a member had enquired for an official ruling as to whether an assistant who received a half-holiday from 2 p.m. until the opening of business the next morning on a day which was gazetted as a public holiday, was also entitled to the usual weekly half-holiday in the same week. He had interviewed the Secretary for Labour on the matter, and was informed that under the Shops and Factories Act assistants in chemists' shops were only legally entitled to one half-holiday per week, notwithstanding that such half-holiday was given on a day gazetted as a public holiday.

"Astropine" and "Atropine."—In pursuance of a resolution of the Council agreed to at a previous meeting, a communication was forwarded to the Registrar of Trade Marks pointing out the danger which existed if the word "Astropine" were registered as a trade mark. To this letter a formal reply was received, stating that if the Council wished to oppose the registration of the trade mark it would be necessary to lodge a notice of opposition in duplicate in the usual official manner, and pay the prescribed fee. In answer to this communication the following reply was forwarded:—

"The Pharmaceutical Society does not desire to formally oppose the registration of the word "Astropine," nor should it be expected to do so. In the public interest it was resolved that your attention should be drawn to the danger of granting the registration of a coined word which was likely to be confused with such a dangerous poisonous alkaloid as 'Atropine.' It is respectfully considered that representations of this nature should be taken into account on grounds of public policy without requiring a fee to be paid and a formal notice of opposition lodged. The Society's interests are not affected by the proposed registration, but it was thought from the public standpoint that your attention should be drawn to the matter."

Lecturer's Report.—The following report was received from the lecturer to third year medical students in Materia Medica and Pharmacy:—

"I have the honour to submit a report upon the work done by the class of third-year medical students of the University during the past session at the Melbourne College of Pharmacy in the subjects of Materia Medica, Pharmacy and Practical Pharmacy. The class was somewhat below that of last year, when the class was exceptionally large. At the annual University pass examination 60 candidates presented themselves. The general character of the paper given in was good. Seventeen (or 28 per cent.) obtained 70 per cent. marks or more, while 10 (or 16.6 per cent.) failed to pass the examination. Owing to war conditions it was not possible to obtain a sufficient number of metric weights for use by every member of the class. Metric measures, however, in mils were obtainable. Prescriptions, therefore, for the practical dispensing were written in terms of the metric system, but the students were required to reduce the metric to the Imperial weights and to use the latter. The mil measures could be used without conversion. Under the circumstances this was considered to be the most preferable course to adopt, but at best it was a clumsy compromise, and it is to be hoped that the metric sets of weights will be available next session and the metric system solely used in the practical pharmacy and dispensing. As in former years, the fact was impressed upon the students that their work was not undertaken with a view of making them skilled pharmacists or good dispensers, but to render them efficient as prescribers. It was pointed out that it was much more desirable to prescribe an appropriate selection of drugs in combination than a proprietary preparation the exact composition of which was unknown. Emphasis was laid upon the occasional risks in-

curred by the patient by careless prescribing, and it was shown how the objects of the prescriber might be entirely defeated by the prescribing together of incompatible substances and preparations. A fairly complete list of German proprietary names was given, their equivalents stated, and the students were urged on no account in their future careers to prescribe any substance under a German proprietary name. As the occasion arose the rudiments of ethics as between the medical man and the pharmacist were explained, and some attention was given to the desirability of prescribing mixtures, etc., in a form least repellant to the patient. The general objects of the course were held in view. In the pass examination exercises were given in prescribing, but none in practical dispensing. The general earnestness of the class in prosecuting their work was remarkable, and their behaviour, excepting on one occasion, for which some excuse might be made, was good. Mr. Parry's aid as demonstrator again proved to be of the greatest value throughout the course."—SIDNEY PLOWMAN, F.R.C.S., Eng., Lecturer.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were balloted for and elected:—*Full Member*—Thomas A. Laurance, Brunswick. *Associate Members*—Dora Altson, St. Kilda, and Dorothy Murphy, South Yarra.

An application was received for admission on behalf of a pharmacist who was using the term "consulting chemist" in his newspaper advertisements. It was decided to postpone dealing with this application until the next meeting, and the Secretary was instructed to write to the pharmacist in question, stating that the policy of the Council was opposed to the use of these titles by pharmacists. It was pointed out that in taking this action the Council did not in any way reflect on the personal character or integrity of the applicant, but that on grounds of general policy it was felt that a stand should be taken in regard to the use of such unethical titles as "consulting chemist" and similar terms.

The Honour Roll.—It was resolved that the following additional names be added to the Honour Roll:—Messrs. J. H. C. Brown, P. S. Balding, J. J. Carroll, J. A. Crawford, S. Featherston, H. Retchford, R. Stredwick, Leo Sutcliffe, W. H. Taite, J. H. Walker, L. F. Heine and Charles Phillips.

Students and Training Camps.—The President reported that the same difficulty as was experienced last year had arisen in connection with the compulsory training camps for the citizen forces. New students who were desirous of attending the lectures had found that they were required to go into training early in the College year. He had endeavoured to have this difficulty adjusted, but at the same time he desired to point out that to some extent it was the students' own fault that this difficulty arose. He thought that in future intending students should make application to attend their course of training at a camp which was held previous to the commencement of the lectures. This could easily be done if students would make their arrangements regarding camp training before the commencement of the College year. It was resolved that prominence be given to this recommendation in the journal from time to time.

Opening of College Session.—The President reported that the College year had opened on February 5 with a class consisting of 22 students. He suggested to the Council the desirability in future years of having an official opening and a formal introduction by the president of the lecturers to the class. He thought that if this were done it might be an advantage both to the College and the students themselves. It was resolved that the suggestion of the president be endorsed.

Audited Financial Statements.—The financial statements of the Society, College and Journal, which had been duly audited and found to be correct, were laid on the table. On the motion of Mr. Owen, seconded by Mr. Kernot, they were received and adopted, and ordered to be circulated amongst the members.

Retiring Members of the Council.—The returning officer reported that the retiring members of the Council were Messrs. Francis, Gabriel, Leete and Pickford. Nominations for the four vacancies closed on February 21, and the date of election was March 14.

Annual Report, 1916.—The Secretary read a draft of the annual report for the year 1916, which was ordered to be printed and a copy forwarded to each member.

Annual Meeting.—It was resolved that the 60th annual meeting of the Society be held on Wednesday, March 14, at 8.30 p.m. Mr. Pickford said he intended to move at the annual meeting that some power should be given to the Society to control persons who used the term "consulting chemist." He thought that there should be no doubt as to what was the Council's attitude in regard to this matter.

Wages Board.—The President reported that certain aspects in regard to the wages board question had been prominently brought under notice during the past month or two. He thought that the matter might be fully discussed at the Society's annual meeting. In the meantime he suggested that a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Lee and Pickford, might go fully into the matter, and report to the Council at its next meeting. The President's recommendation was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Leete.

College Sports Coat.—Mr. Owen said that he had been asked by Mr. Buckhurst to suggest to the Council the advisability of adopting an official sports coat for students and past students of the College. He thought that if this were done it would greatly add to the *espirit de corps* of those who had graduated at the College. Some years ago a hat band had been adopted, but he thought the addition of a sports coat would appeal to those older students who had attended the College some years ago. He moved that the Secretary be instructed to make inquiries regarding cost, etc., and report to the next meeting of the Council. Mr. Leete seconded the motion, which was carried.

Venereal Diseases Act.—The President submitted a report of the recommendations agreed upon at the recent conference of medical men and pharmacists, which was convened by the Government to fix a schedule of drugs which could only be sold on the prescription of a medical practitioner. Major Cossar read the recommendations of the conference, and after a brief discussion it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Kernot, seconded by Mr. Owen, that the Council endorse

the decisions arrived at by the Conference. Mr. Kernot then moved that the Council express its gratification at the successful outcome of the conference, and at the satisfactory manner in which the pharmaceutical representatives had voiced the views of the craft. In moving this resolution, Mr. Kernot said that he felt sure that their representatives had done excellent work, and he thought that the least they could do was to forward a letter of thanks and appreciation to those pharmacists who had represented them on the conference. He moved accordingly. Mr. Gabriel seconded the resolution, which Mr. Pickford said he had great pleasure in supporting. Mr. Taylor said it was greatly due to the tact and diplomacy of Mr. Towl and the fighting ability of Mr. Buckhurst that they had secured such a satisfactory schedule. Mr. Bailey said that the main factor which influenced all the decisions of the conference was that pharmacists were actuated with the same desire as the medical men to do their utmost to assist in stamping out venereal diseases. The President said they were indebted to Mr. Towl for his courtesy in arranging for the Council to be represented by its President and Vice-President. The motion was carried unaniomusly.

Donations to the College Museum.—Mr. Pickford said he had pleasure in presenting to the Council on behalf of Mr. J. P. Winch a valuable set of geological specimens which Mr. Winch had collected during one of his expeditions to the interior of the continent, some 400 miles from civilisation. The exhibits were most interesting, and should prove a valuable adjunct to the College museum. He moved that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to Mr. Winch for his presentation. This was seconded by Mr. Owen, and carried. It was resolved that the specimens be classified and placed in a special case in the College museum.

The Library.—The following books were added to the library:—"Class Book of Physics" (Gregory and Hadley), "Organic Chemistry" (Cohen), "Practical Chemistry" (Newth), "Inorganic Chemistry" (Newth). It was resolved that a copy of the United States Pharmacopoeia, 1910, the new edition of the "National Dispensatory," U.S.A., and the biennial index of "The Analyst" be purchased and placed in the library.

General Business.—The President reported that, during his visit to the Western States he was very kindly received and hospitably treated by pharmacists in Adelaide and Perth. It was resolved that a letter be forwarded to the Pharmaceutical Societies of South Australia and Western Australia, expressing appreciation of the kindly manner in which the President had been treated during his visit.

Major Cossar said he had granted the use of the lecture room to Mr. T. E. Turner, for Thursday, February 8, the occasion being a special lecture on Pharmacy to the members of the Chemists' Assistants' Association. Major Cossar invited any member of the Council who could attend the lecture to be present. The President's action was endorsed.

Mr. Gabriel drew attention to the death of Lieut A. A. Chapman, who died from wounds received in France, on January 27. Lieut. Chapman was known to most of the members of the Council, and was held in very high respect and esteem. He moved that a letter of sympathy and condolence from the Council be forwarded to the relatives of the late Lieut. Chapman. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement, and after other routine business had been dealt with, the Council adjourned.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

City Section.

The monthly meeting of the City Section, M.C.A., was held Wednesday, 14th February.

It was considered a good idea on the part of the Central Committee to get slips printed, drawing the attention of mail order customers to the new regulation of the Postal Department against affixing stamps to postal notes, as these have to be soaked off before the notes can be cashed. This section would take 5000 such slips.

It was reported that an official from the Factories Department interviewed some of the City chemists in regard to a complaint of the grocers that chemists were selling grocers' lines after 6 p.m. It was pointed out that all the lines stocked by grocers and chemists were either B.P. or originally introduced by the chemist, and pirated by the grocer. It was decided that this was a matter for the Central Committee to take up, as it would require watching.

G. F. H. Attwood, Hon. Sec.

Society of Chemical Industry.

The annual report for 1916 of the Victorian Society of Chemical Industry refers to the formation of a Food Analysis Committee, which will investigate the various methods of analyses employed in laboratories throughout the Commonwealth, with a view to the adoption of standard methods of analyses. A grant of £50 has been received from the Federal Scientific Advisory Council to assist the Society in undertaking work of this nature. The report refers to the establishment of an Institute of Chemistry, the object of which will be to improve the status and emoluments of those engaged in the chemical profession, and to insure that those engaged in chemical work are "properly trained qualified chemists." During the year action was taken to secure a higher classification of a chemical position advertised by the State Public Service Commissioner.

Lecture on Pharmacy.

Mr. T. E. Turner read a paper on "Pharmacy" before the members of the Chemists' Assistants' Association, at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on February 8 (*ante* page 45). There was an attendance of over forty. At the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. D. Campbell proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer. Pharmacists as a body, he said, were much indebted to Mr. Turner for his lecture, which was enjoyed by all present. Mr. Leete, in seconding the vote of thanks, said he felt that the pharmaceutical calling was in a much better position to-day than it

was a few years ago, when some pessimistic people considered that pharmacy was on its last legs. In responding, Mr. Turner exhorted pharmacists to recognise their high calling, and urged them to endeavour to improve their status. He eulogised the work done in connection with advancing the position of pharmacists in the A.M.C., which he cited as an example of what could be done if they were all united and enthusiastic. Later on he hoped to be able to deliver another lecture on the "Romance of a Microbe." He thanked them for the appreciative way in which they had listened to his paper. At the instance of Messrs. Kenny and Laurie, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Pharmaceutical Society for the use of its lecture room.

Legislative Council Vacancy.

The President of the Legislative Council has issued a writ for the election of a member for the Wellington province to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. J. Y. McDonald. Mr. A. Bell, of Ballarat, is a candidate for the vacancy. He is the father of Mr. Alex. Bell, chemist, of Inglewood, and is sympathetic towards the interests of pharmacists. Mr. Bell, senior, is a good speaker, and a man of sound commercial experience. His election would be of advantage to pharmacists. Polling takes place on March 2. Ballarat is the centre of the electorate.

Queensland News.

The Opticians' Bill.

The postponed session of Parliament has given the quietus to the Opticians' Hill. It passed through the Lower House, but on reaching the Upper Chamber the Bill was lost, largely owing to the opposition of Dr. Marks, and a few others, who maintained that the time was not ripe for introducing a Bill of this kind, especially at the fag end of the session. The motion of Dr. Marks, to the effect that the Bill be read this day six months, was carried.

Health Bill Regulations.

These regulations are probably the most far-reaching of any of the kind introduced in the Commonwealth or in any other part of the British Empire. As a whole, they are doubtlessly good, and were passed in the interest of the public.

It is perhaps fortunate for retail chemists, the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society some four years ago obtained the consent of the Department of Public Health, to allow them to adopt the suggested labelling conditions, recommended by the interstate Committees. All these have been embodied in the new Regulations, so that, with comparatively few additions, chemists' labels are now in accordance with the new Regulations.

Regulation 72 is the most important one, as far as pharmaceutical chemists are concerned, and especially those sub-sections requiring the formula of patent medicines to appear on the label, or, failing that, the formula must be deposited with the Commissioner. It is a moot question as to whether these Regulations will injure the trade of the chemists or not, seeing that people will have medicines, and in those cases where the proprietors of overseas products refuse to lodge their formula with the Health Department, or have them printed on the label, the sale will be cut out within this State. Substitutes for these would have to be manufactured locally. On the other hand, there would be a large number of persons who would insist upon having their pet remedies, and would obtain it by post from other States. It does not seem to be possible for one State to adopt regulations so far in advance of the others without injury to itself. The plea has been advocated that there would be no risk whatsoever to formulae deposited with the Commissioner being disclosed. Some manufacturers are most emphatic in saying that they do not intend to take the risk of this. Evidently influence has been brought to bear, and the following Regulations have been annulled by resolution in the Legislative Council, namely, Sections 4, 5, and 6, the words "or other diseases or conditions which are generally recognised as incurable by the simple administration of drugs or for the cure of contageous or acute diseases, the treatment of which properly requires the supervision of a qualified medical attendant in Section 8, Sub-section (c) of Section 9, and Sections 10 and 11. Furthermore, on the motion of Mr. Hawthorne, in the Legislative Council, as an amendment to the new Health Act Amending Bill, it was resolved that no Regulation under the principal Act of this Act shall provide the owners or proprietors of proprietary foods and medicines, shall deposit, disclose, or publish the formulae of ingredients of any such proprietary food or medicines. This resolution passed the Upper House, but it has since been disagreed with by the Legislative Assembly.

There is a feeling abroad that the whole question regarding the deposit of formulae will be revived in the near future.

A Special Council Meeting of the Society was held on January 25th, to discuss the Food and Drug Regulations, with the Chief Inspector of Foods and Drugs.

The President explained the object of the meeting, and welcomed the Chief Inspector, Mr. Petherick. The different sections of the Regulations affecting pharmaceutical chemists were discussed in full; practically all the Councillors present took part.

The Chief Inspector explained that there was no desire on the part of the department to hit below the belt. In future the operations of the Health Department would, in a large measure, be associated with the responsible officers of the Pharmaceutical Society, and that in all cases he felt assured that the department would greatly assist chemists and all other responsible traders.

With regard to Disinfectants, etc., there were no great irregularities existing, but all traders would have to get into line with the requirements of the Regulations as regards the first word on the label.

The question of containers was an important one, which he was sure that members of the drug trade were the least of offenders. No false or misleading device on the label would be allowed, and modifying statements of any kind were taboo.

It was important for members to remember that deteriorated barks, roots, leaves, etc., were regarded under the Regulations as adulterated. It was decided to write to the department asking for reasonable time to get rid of stocks not conforming with the new Regulations as regard labelling.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Petherick for attending.

Health Bill.

A Health Act Amending Bill is now in the throes of discussion in the Parliament. All sorts of matters figured in this Bill, but the bulk of these have been excised. From the chemists' point of view, it is interesting to note that the Sale and Use of Poisons Act has been repealed. This subject will be dealt with by Regulations under the Health Act. If rumours speak truthfully, the Regulations bearing on this subject will be quite up to date, and there will be several deviations from the English Act, on which practically all our Australian Acts are based. After the culling the Bill received in the Upper House, it has been almost entirely reduced to a series of sections dealing with enthetic diseases. The West Australian Act in this particular has been largely followed, and it will apply to the whole State of Queensland, instead of the Brisbane district alone, as the present Regulations do. Whatever pharmacists have to say about the Bill, it is an honest attempt to restrain these awful diseases within bounds. It is to be hoped that the measure will work out well in practice.

Filters Approved of by the Health Department.

A communication has been received by the Pharmaceutical Society from the Department of Public Health to the effect that the following brands of filters are approved of by the department:—

"Great Torrent."—Great Torrent Filtering Pty. Ltd., 31 Queen-street, Melbourne.
"Abbott." — Herbert Toothill, 96 Eagle-street, Brisbane.
"Marriott."—R. G. Rogers, 6 Central Buildings, Edward-street, Brisbane.
"Berkfield."—Taylor and Colledge, Brisbane.
"Delphin" (10in. candle, with cemented-on fittings).—Perry Bros., Brisbane.
"Pinnacles" (with Berkfield candles).—Mauri Bros. and Thomson, Brisbane.
"Brownlow Pinnacle."—Mauri Bros.
"Jeffrey."—Quinlan, Gray and Co., Brisbane.

A Valueless Cheque.

William Charles Crook, who has been acting as chemist assistant in various parts of Queensland, was charged before the City Police Court, Brisbane, with having obtained £9 from an employee of Pike Bros., by falsely pretending that a valueless cheque for the sum of £10 was good and valid. Accused entered a plea of guilty. The P.M. imposed a sentence of three months' imprisonment, the sentence being suspended on his entering into a bond in £50 to give good behaviour for 12 months, and making restitution to the amount of £9.

South Australia.

Pharmacy Board of South Australia.

At the January meeting of the Board, Mr. W. H. Baker wrote tendering his resignation as a member. The President said he had asked Mr. Baker to reconsider the matter, but owing to private affairs he was unable to do this. It was then suggested that Mr. Baker might apply for leave of absence for the rest of the term, thus enabling the Board to retain his services as examiner. Mr. Baker agreed to this, and the Registrar was instructed to write him expressing appreciation of his past services, and gratification that he had seen his way to meet the Board's wishes.

The Arbitration Court Proceedings.

Pharmacists are anxiously awaiting the decision of the Arbitration Court in reference to the claims of chemists' assistants. It has been an extremely arduous and not inexpensive task to place the master pharmacists' position before the Judge. The Victorian Wages Board system, where both parties meet in conference with an independent chairman seems a much better system. All the Court formalities and paraphernalia, engagement of King's Counsel, waiting about day after day to give evidence, consulting solicitors and barristers, and the consequent worries attached to preparing the "case," do not tend to make these proceedings a heaven of delight. Now and then the deadly monotony was relieved a little by the introduction of a side issue. The frequency of calls upon chemists to supply articles after the closing hour of 6 p.m. was the subject of portion of the evidence given by a suburban chemist at the Industrial Court at one of the hearings. It was disclosed that a nocturnal visitor had knocked vigorously at the door of the chemist's shop, the proprietor of which petulently enquired, "Is it an urgent case?" "If I don't get a baby's comforter I will get no sleep to-night," replied a distracted father. The article was supplied.

Sulphur Mining.

Since the first week of the new year some scores of trucks of sulphur, presumably from Japan, have been sent to Broken Hill. Many of the trucks were loaded up to the holding capacity, and at a low estimate it is safe to say that no fewer than 1300 tons of the stuff were received in successive six days. These figures give some indication of the increasing use of sulphur in the separation process, installed on many mining companies. Nor is it only on the treatment plants of the Barrier that sulphur is playing such an important part. The position then is why are not some of the proved sulphur-producing mines in South Australia turning out the stuff that is in such good demand? The sulphur is available in payable proportions, and it should prove a good industry if capital could be attracted to develop it.

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The Board met at Hobart on January 18th, 1917, at 10.30 a.m.

Present.—Messrs. M. Rushton (President), H. T. Gould, J. T. Weaver, T. James, H. Sidwell, and the Registrar.

Examinations.—It was noted that Mr. R. Bradley had failed in the Preliminary, and had been advised to that effect. Mr. C. A. Clayton had intimated that he desired to sit in March for the Final Examination. Left to Mr. Weaver to arrange.

Annual Election.—No nominations having been received, it was intimated that the retiring members would be declared re-elected at the next meeting of the Board.

Poisons Act.—A letter from the President to the Attorney-General was read, suggesting that the Act come into force on the 2nd April. A reply was received, intimating that the suggestion would receive consideration. Resolved that each member of the Board, including Mr. Eberhard, be supplied with a copy of the Act, and that at next meeting members come prepared with suggestions for a circular to be issued in connection with the administration of the Act.

Contravention of Pharmacy Act.—A communication was received from the Police Department, concerning the sale of a bottle of chlorodyne, which, it was alleged, had been used by a resident of Strahan, who was supposed to have attempted to commit suicide. Registrar was instructed to return the file, and thank the Acting Commissioner for sending it, and say that the matter would receive consideration in connection with the coming into force of the new Act, when the Department would be again communicated with.

Registration.—A letter was received from Mr. F. J. Ellis, relative to his name being kept on the permanent register. The information required had been supplied him.

Correspondence between the Board and Mr. C. J. Miles, of Sydney, was tabled. It was noted he had been supplied with a Certificate of Competency and Identity. Action approved. The Registrar was instructed to write to Miss Peterson, dispenser at Hobart General Hospital, pointing out that the Board was of opinion that she should apply for registration in the usual way.

Telephone.—Resolved that the name of the Board be inserted in the official telephone list.

Finance.—Accounts amounting to £7/4/10 were passed for payment.

The Board adjourned.

The Poisons Act, 1916.

This Act was assented to on December 8, 1916, and will shortly come into force. It is based principally on the Consolidated Poisons Act of Victoria, but opportunity had been taken by the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania to secure two or three important amendments. In the definition of "sale," the meaning of the word has been extended to include "having in possession for sale and exposing for sale." This is a notable advance in Australian poisons legislation, and will greatly facilitate the Board's work in connection with prosecutions. The penalty for an offence is a fine not exceeding £50, or for imprisonment for any term not exceeding twelve months. Storekeepers distant *five* miles from a registered chemist may be licensed to sell poisons "only in unopened packages, bearing the name and address of a registered pharmacutical chemist licensed to sell poisons." The annual license fee is 5/-. Poisons transmitted by post must be registered. Licensed dealers must produce their poisons book to the registrar of the Board or other authorised person on demand. Penalty, not exceeding £100. No person must sell a poison unless the word "Poison" is printed conspicuously in red letters not less than three-sixteenths of an inch in size, and the name of the article, the simple antidote therefor (if any), the name and address of the vendor, and the address of the shop or premises from which the article was sold. All such matter must be so printed that the purchaser can plainly see the same. In section 14 the exemption of mixtures dispensed by pharmacists is limited to poisons made up or compounded by a registered chemist for the purpose of sale in his open shop or according to the prescription of a medical practitioner. Homoeopathic medicines except in the crude state, Mother tinctures are also exempted. Patent and proprietary medicines are exempted from Division I. of the Act when sold by doctors, chemists, licensed dealers, or other persons entitled to sell or supply medicines or drugs under the Pharmacy Act. The other exemptions follow the Victorian Act. Agricultural, pastoral and horticultural poisons are exempted, provided they are ordered in writing and a record of the sales kept. They must also be contained in a closed vessel and labelled. No proceedings may be taken without the consent in writing of the Minister, to whom all offences must be reported. The police may prosecute. The provisions of the Victorian Act in reference to the sale of industrial poisons are copied. The Pharmacy Board administers the Act. All fees and penalties must be paid to the consolidated revenue.

The schedule is based on the Victorian schedule. One addition in Part II. is noted, viz.:—"Solution of Cresol; and all preparations or admixtures containing 50 per centum or more of cresylic acid." Chlorodyne is in Part II.

Taken as a whole, the Act marks the greatest advance in Poisons legislation in Australia, if not in the British Empire. It will serve as a useful model for future legislation in the other States. The only weak point is the payment of fees and penalties into the consolidated revenue. These should be included in the revenue of the Board. Possibly, however, the Government will make an annual grant to the Board in aid of the administration of the Act.

All High-Class Preparations.

Greathead's Mixture

Greatoids

Bleacho

Gainsborough Hat Dyes

Collis' Royale Eau de Cologne

Collis' Carnation Eau de Cologne

Collis' Violet Shampoo Powders

Velvice Greaseless Face Cream

Collis' Violet and Carnation Talcum Powders

Collis' Cold Cream of Roses

Veloute Face Powders

THE ABOVE LINES ARE ALL OBTAINABLE FROM

Twentieth Century Manufacturing Co.

388 SPENCER ST., WEST MELBOURNE

TELEPHONE No. 2156 CENTRAL.

AND YIELD GOOD PROFITS.

SALVARSAN AND NEOSALVARSAN

EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTES.

GALYL

GALYL is tetraoxydiphosphaminodiarsenobenzene and has been discovered by Dr. Mouneyrat.

It is found in the form of a clean yellow powder, liable to change when exposed to the air.

CALYL is as effective as SALVARSAN or NEOSALVARSAN on Spirochætes and Trypanosomes and free from the neurotropic and congestive actions of these preparations.

For Intravenous Injections—

(1) DILUTE—GALYL is supplied in neutral glass ampoules containing the necessary dose of Sodium Carbonate. Sterile distilled water being only used for the dissolution.

(2) CONCENTRATED—A special outfit containing one dose GALYL, one ampoule sterilised solution, and one small filter is supplied.

DOSES: 0·20—0·25—0·30—0·35—0·40.

For *Intramuscular Injections* GALYL is supplied in oily emulsion.

DOSES: 0·20—0·30—0·40.

Ref., B.M.J., 14/3/14—12/9/14.
LANCET, 18/9/15.

HECTINE

HECTINE is Sodii Benzo-sulph-p-amino-phenyl arsonas.

HECTINE consists of colourless needles, very soluble in water, containing approximately 21 per cent. of arsenic.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections—*

AMPOULES A containing 10 cg. in 1 c.c.
AMPOULES B ,, 20 cg. in 1 c.c.
PILLS ,, 10 cg.

Ref., THE LANCET, 26/6/15—"Severe cases of intractable syphillis treated satisfactorily with Hectine."

HECTARGYRE

Mercurial salt of HECTINE, a combined arsenico-mercurial treatment of Syphillis, especially recommended after a course of Galyl.

The preparation is put up in sterile ampoules for *Intramuscular Injections—*

AMPOULES A containing
Hectine - 10 cg. in 1 c.c.
Hg. - 1 cg.
AMPOULES B Containing
Hectine - 20 cg. in 1 c.c.
Hg. - 1½ cg.
PILLS containing
Hectine - 10 cg.
Protoiod of Hg. 1 cg.
Opium Extract 1 cg.
In Phials of 24 Pills.

Supplies may be obtained from:—

ELLIOTT BROTHERS, Sydney and Brisbane. **A. M. BICKFORD & SON, Adelaide.**
FELTON, GRIMWADE & CO., Melbourne. **FELTON, GRIMWADE & BICKFORD LTD., Fremantle.**

Complete Literature on application to the Sole Agents for the British Empire, Colonies and Dominions—

M. BRESILLON & CO., Gamage Buildings, Holborn, London, E.C.

'Phone: Holborn 1311. **Telegrams: "Ampsalvas."**

Food & Drugs.

Queensland Health Act Regulations. Drastic Provisions.

New Food and Drug regulations were approved by the Governor-in-Council on December 15, 1916. They cover 24 closely printed pages in the *Government Gazette* of December 20. It is therefore impossible to refer to them at any length, but if every pharmacist desires to obtain a copy, he may do so in forwarding 10d. in stamps to the Government Printer, Brisbane.

The new regulations are based on the recommendations of the Interstate Conference held in 1913.

The Metric System, by one of the additions, is allowed in the sale of all food and drugs by weight or measure.

Labels on Detachable Wrappers.—Labels on detachable wrappers and cartons enclosing a food or drug or article for sale shall bear upon such labels all of the particulars concerning the contained article as are required by the Acts and Regulations to be stated upon the label attached to the immediate container.

Any article of food or drug shall be deemed to be falsely described if a wrapper or carton covers the label on the immediate container, and the statements on the said wrapper or carton omit any of the declarations or particulars required by the Acts or Regulations to be stated upon the label attached to the immediate container.

Infants' Food standard, regulation 20 (3)—"The Departmental interpretation of the standard for human milk and for the degree of approximation required will be as follows:—Proteids, 1.5 (minimum 1.2, maximum 1.8); fat, 3.5 (minimum 2.8, maximum 4.2); sugars, 6.5 (minimum 5.2, maximum 7.8). The permissible variation from the above standard, 20 per centum above or below in each constituent, make the limits shown above."

Drugs (Regulation 71).—(1) Drugs, which are included in the latest edition with amendments of the British Pharmacopœia, shall conform with the description and tests respectively prescribed for them in the said Pharmacopœia, unless otherwise standardised in these Regulations, or in any Act in force, or in Regulations made thereunder:

Provided that in any preparation intended solely for external use, where olive oil or arachis oil is indicated in the established standard, cottonseed oil may be used in lieu thereof; and

Provided that in a preparation where wine is used as specified in the standard established it shall not be deemed to be adulterated in so far as it is compounded with wine, as already defined in these Regulations, of Australian origin containing not less than twenty-eight parts per centum of proof spirit.

(2) Drugs which are not included in the latest edition with amendments of the British Pharmacopœia, and which are included in the latest edition of the British Pharmaceutical Codex shall conform to the descriptions and tests respectively prescribed for them in the said Codex, unless otherwise standardised in these Regulations, or in any Act in force in Queensland, or in regulations made thereunder.

(3) A drug bearing a name recognised in the latest edition of the B.P. Codex which does not conform to the description and tests prescribed in the said Codex and which is not standardised in the Acts or Regulations shall not be deemed to be adulterated if it be labelled in uniform type of not less than twelve points face measurement immediately following the name of the substance the words: "Not in accordance with the British Pharmaceutical Codex."

(4) Linimentum aconiti, Linimentum belladonnæ, Linimentum camphoratum ammoniatum, Linimentum saponis may be compounded with methylated spirits.

(5) No drug shall be deemed to be a preparation of chloroform, provided it contains not more than one-fourth of one part per centum of chloroform.

Proprietary Medicines.—Under Regulation 72 (sub-clauses 7 to 13):—

(7) A patent or proprietary medicine shall be of such character that it will not be liable to endanger life or health when used in accordance with the accompanying instructions; and if the preparation is one which is liable to occasion injury when improperly used or when used to excess, the label and accompanying literature shall bear instructions tending to guard against such improper or excessive use.

(8) The label relating to any package containing a patent or proprietary medicine for sale shall not contain any statement or claim which directly or by implication indicates or suggests that the contents will cure asthma, Bright's disease, cancer, consumption, cerebro-spinal meningitis, dropsy, diabetes, epilepsy, fits, gout, infantile paralysis, locomotor ataxy, lupus, paralysis, rupture, syphilis, or other diseases or conditions which are generally recognised as incurable by the simple administration of drug or for the cure of contagious or acute diseases the treatment of which properly requires the supervision of a qualified medical attendant; or that the medicine is a universal "panacea," "infallible remedy," "kidney cure," "cure for headache," "cure for baldness," "cure for drunkenness," "cure for the Liquor Habit," or is a "Skin Food," or that the medicine will remove fat, develop the bust, raise the height, or eradicate wrinkles.

(9) The label relating to any package containing a patent or proprietary medicine for sale shall not contain any statement which—

(a) Indicates or suggests that the medicine is an abortifacient;

(b) Invites sufferers from any ailment to correspond with the vendor;

(c) Bears the name of a fictitious person in connection therewith;

(d) Contains fictitious testimonials.

(10) A person shall not publish on any label relating to any patent or proprietary medicine for sale a recommendation of the contents or of any other patent medicine by a medical practitioner, unless his or her full name, qualifications, and address be stated thereon.

(11) Any drug packed for sale under a fancy or invented name shall wherever such name ap-

pears upon any label relating thereto be written with a capital letter, and the said fancy or invented name wherever it appears on a package containing such drug shall in addition be enclosed within inverted commas.

(12) A proprietary preparation or patent medicine shall not be named or advertised in such a way as to conceal its proprietary character and lead the purchaser to believe that it is a simple chemical or vegetable drug ordinarily purchasable in small quantities instead of a proprietary substance or mixture of substances.

(13) No person shall sell any patent or proprietary medicine or preparation contained in a package in respect of which any of the provisions in these Regulations is contravened.

SECOND-HAND CONTAINERS.—No person shall sell or offer for sale second-hand or used bottles, tins, and other receptacles as containers of food and drugs unless and until such time as the said bottles, tins, and other receptacles have been sterilised by boiling, or treated by some other process approved by the commissioner, and have thereafter been so kept as to be free from contamination by dust or other means.

CHEMISTS' SHOPS, REGULATION 96.—Every person carrying on the business of a chemist shall comply with the following conditions:—

1. The entire premises wherein his business is conducted shall be kept at all times in a clean and sanitary condition.
2. The counters, shelves, drawers, and bins shall be free from dust and dirt.
3. Measures, mortars, and other apparatus and glassware used in preparing drugs shall be kept clean.
4. Prescription bottles shall be washed and cleaned before filling.
5. Powder papers shall be made of clean paper.
6. Back shop and basements shall be kept clean, well ventilated and lighted.
7. Storerooms shall be dry, free from litter, and suitable for the storage of medical preparations.
8. Where a filter is in use at a chemist's shop for filtering water, such filter shall be of a type approved by the Commissioner of Public Health, and no filter other than a filter approved by the Commissioner of Public Health shall be used upon such premises.
9. When a soda fountain is operated in a chemist's shop the general regulations dealing with the conduct of soda fountains shall apply and be observed.

Queensland.

The following is a copy of some communications carried on between the Department of Public Health and the office of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland:—

LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT TO SOCIETY.

31st January, 1917.

Sir,

Re Labelling Disinfectant.

I have, by direction, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 10th instant and in reply to inform you that to conform to requirements of the new Regulation No. 77, the word "Disinfectant" or the word "Germicide" or both, would have to appear upon the first line of the label in bold faced sans-seriff capital letters of not less than 12 points face measurement—in such colours as to afford a distinct colour contrast to the ground.

Following the description of the product should be stated the strength or proportion, and the manner in which and the time during which it must be used or allowed to act in order that it may be effective as a disinfectant or germicide with additional information as to any matter in the presence of which, or any condition or circumstance in which the disinfectant or germicidal effect is counteracted, diminished, rendered inoperative, or otherwise interfered with.

A typical label would be somewhat on the following lines—

DISINFECTANT.

POISON.

ECLIPSOLL.

(Contains 40% Cresylic Acid).

Used in the strength of 1 in 350 (or one part of Eclipsoll to 350 parts of water.

Destroys bacillus Typhosus in 5 minutes.
" " Diphtheria in 3 minutes.

Household Directions, etc., etc.

Will not mix in salt or brakish water.

PREPARED BY

JOHN JONES & CO. LTD.,

184 Short Street, Brisbane.

Yours, etc.,

L. E. MELLISH,
Secretary.

LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT TO SOCIETY.

1st February, 1917.

Sir,

I have, by direction, to inform you that the undermentioned brands of "so-called citrate of magnesia" upon analysis have been reported by the Government Analyst as containing no citrate of magnesia, and are therefore falsely described within the meaning of the Health Acts and cannot lawfully be offered for sale, under their present description, in this State.

1. "Barrington's Granular Effervescent Citrate."
2. "Bishop's Effervescent Citrate of Magnesia."
3. "Citros," an approved effervescing citrate of magnesia (F. H. Faulding).
4. "Granular Effervescent Citrate" usually known as "Citrate of Magnesia." (A.D.C.).
5. "Granular Effervescent Saline," formerly known as "Effervescent Citrate of Magnesia." Elliott Bros.

Attention is also directed to certain lines issued under the description "Sulphur and Sarsaparilla Salts" in connection with which it is considered that the same objection applies Analysis of an unofficial sample of "Sulphur and Sarsaparilla Salts" submitted by you some time back, reveals that as present constituted the product is falsely described and a vendor renders himself liable to prosecution under the Health Acts.

Yours, etc.,
L. E. MELLISH,
Secretary.

REPLY FROM SOCIETY TO DEPARTMENT.

7th February, 1917.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of February 1st, I would be glad to have further information with regard to "Sulphur and Sarsaparilla Salts." In what respect does this substance not comply with any official standard laid down, or what special objection is taken by the Department with regard to the labelling on the bottle supplied by myself some time back?

Yours, &c.,
R. C. COWLEY,
Secretary.

REPLY FROM DEPARTMENT TO SOCIETY.

14th February, 1917.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 7th instant re "sulphur and sarsaparilla salts," I have, by direction, to inform you that exception was taken to the labelling of the product in question and not to the standard, it being considered that the description is misleading in view of the fact that there is no preparation in medicine known as "Sarsaparilla Salts."

Further, it is questionable—in view of the extremely small proportion of sarsaparilla present—whether it is entitled to bear the name in connection with the description thereof, and in any case the manner in which it is stated on the label is objectionable on account of the undue prominence it is given.

Any draft of a fresh label to cover this preparation will receive consideration.

Yours, etc.,
L. E. MELLISH,
Secretary.

LETTER FROM SOCIETY TO DEPARTMENT.

9th February, 1917.

Sir,

I have been directed by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to ask the Commissioner, in view of the drastic alterations in the Food and Drug Regulations under the consolidated Health Acts, to make concessions to our members in the direction of allowing a reasonable time for the disposal of their present stocks.

The Councillors of this Society are actuated by every desire to assist the Department in carrying out the requirements of the Act and Regulations.

I am, Yours, etc.,
R. C. COWLEY,
Secretary.

REPLY FROM DEPARTMENT TO SOCIETY.

14th February, 1917.

Sir,

Re Food and Drug Regulations

I have, by direction, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 9th instant *re* the above, and in reply to inform you that the members of your Society will be allowed six (6) months in which to dispose of stocks of goods at present on hand that are constituted and labelled in conformity with the requirements of the Food and Drug Regulations obtaining previous to the issue of the Food and Drug Regulations 1916 which are at present in force in this State.

In cases in which any of the members consider they are entitled to special concessions the Commissioner will be glad to have the circumstances placed before him for consideration.

Yours, etc.,
L. E. MELLISH,
Secretary.

Legal.

Poisons Act Prosecutions.

At the Horsham police court on February 2, before Mr. Harrison, P.M., Frank and Alfred Langlands, trading as J. Langlands and Son, were charged with having sold a preparation of cantharides, to wit, Dryden's Liquid Blister, contrary to the provisions of the Poisons Act, 1915. Inspector Rees prosecuted on behalf of the Pharmacy Board, and deposed having purchased the poison from defendants on a previous visit. He did not desire to press for a heavy penalty, the principal object of the Board being to give publicity to these cases as a warning to others, and to make it quite clear that the sale of poisonous preparations must only be undertaken by authorised persons. Mr. Bennets, who appeared for the defendants, said that his clients had acted innocently, as the Dryden's Liquid Blister was put up in a case of veterinary remedies, and Mr. Langlands was the local agent for the sale of it. A fine of 5s., with £3/10/- costs, was imposed.

Health Act Prosecutions.

At Horsham on February 2, Messrs. Trevan and Connell, grocers, and Joseph H. Morrison, grocer, were charged under regulation 71 of the Health Act for having failed to declare on the label of a bottle of Perry Davis's "Pain-killer" the percentage of opium contained in such bottle. When the cases came up for hearing Inspector Rees informed Mr. Harrison, P.M., that he had ascertained since the purchases were made that an undertaking had been given to the Melbourne agents for "Painkiller" (Messrs. Newell and Co.) that a reasonable time would be allowed them to conform to the regulation. He understood that Messrs. Newell and Co. had done their utmost to comply with the law, and that the articles sold in the present cases were taken from some old stock, as the manufacturers of "Painkiller" now guaranteed that the article did not contain any opium at all. In view of the promise given to Messrs. Newell and Co. he asked the court to agree to the withdrawal of the cases on payment of costs. Mr. Harrison made an order to this effect.

Wages Boards.

South Australian Assistants' Claims.

Conclusion of Arbitration Case.

In the Industrial Court, on January 20, before the Deputy President (Mr. Noel A. Webb), the hearing was continued of an application by the retail chemists and druggists' employees (as members of the Distributing Trades Union) for the court's determination of matters affecting the hours to be worked and the rate of pay and conditions generally.

Mr L. C. Hunkin (secretary of the union) appeared on behalf of the employees; Mr. H. Angas Parsons, K.C., for Messrs. Baker and other respondents; and Mr. J. H. Francis for the Friendly Societies' Medical Association and the Port Adelaide United Friendly Societies' Dispensary.

Evidence Continued.—Morris Charles Moore, chemist, with shops at Mile-End, Torrensville and Prospect, continuing his evidence, said he was a member of the Pharmaceutical Council, and did not employ casual hands. In the matter of starting time, so far as he was concerned, he could do with a quarter to nine. It would cause a certain amount of inconvenience, but he was prepared to accept that. At his shops they were busy right on till 9 p.m., and sometimes a good deal after that hour. Much of the business was due to the fact that the doctors consulted late in the evenings; that people in the city at business during the day could not see the doctor until the evening consulting hour; and in the summer time the women could not get out in the daytime to obtain what was wanted. It might not necessarily be prescriptions, but any medicine or other requisites. Though frequently called after 9 p.m. he never charged for opening the shop at night. At one time people were called on to pay, the object being to discourage the night trade. He was 21 years of age when he qualified, and had been in business on his own account for 16 years.

Prescriptions and Saturday Closing.—To Mr. Hunkin: His businesses were paying fairly well. To the best of his knowledge, most of the prescriptions which they got on Sunday morning were written on that morning. He would like to see the shops closed at 1 p.m. on Saturdays; the extra half-hour was a waste of time. As a matter of fact, all his assistants went away now at 1 p.m. He was aware that by opening at 8.45 a.m. his assistants under the present closing hours would work 48 hours per week. The hours could be further reduced by half an hour on Saturday without inconvenience, so far as he was personally concerned. His managers had spare time, which he did not mind them spending in the garden, for instance, so long as they were within call of the shop. They were not kept hard at it all the time.

Why Not 9 O'clock Closing?—The Deputy President: What I have been thinking is that if 9 o'clock be late enough for every other night except Friday and Saturday, why should it not be late enough for those nights?

Witness said personally he would be quite prepared to close his shop at that time.

The Deputy President: I wish you to consider that aspect, Mr. Parsons. I don't say that I am going to——"

Mr. Parsons: What has occurred to your Honour has occurred to me.

The Deputy President: There is no evidence that 10 o'clock should be the closing hour.

Mr. Parsons: It is the closing hour for grocers.

Mr. Hunkin: What! They close at 9 o'clock. All Rundle-street closes practically at 6 o'clock. (To witness): The volume of business done between 6 and 9 p.m. Could that be condensed?

Witness: You don't refer to prescription business?

Mr. Hunkin: To a certain extent I do.

Witness: Then, so far as the prescription business is concerned, I don't think it could be.

A Matter of Arrangement.—Mr. Hunkin: What arrangements do you make to enable your assistants to work only 52 hours a week?

Witness gave as a typical case that of his employee, Jones. On Mondays he worked from 8 a.m. till 5.30 p.m., with an hour off for lunch, and from 7 p.m. till 9 p.m. Tuesday, 8 a.m. till 5.30 p.m. with an hour off for lunch. Wednesday, 8 a.m. till 9 p.m., with two hours off. Thursday, 8 a.m. till 4.30 p.m., with an hour for lunch, and from 6 p.m. till 9 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m. till 1 p.m. Saturdays, 8 a.m. till 1 p.m. He worked three Sundays out of five.

Mr. Hunkin: Then your men work actually four nights a week. Is that fair?

Witness: They are satisfied, Mr. Hunkin. He added that one man was the only one who signed the log, and he had informed witness that he signed it in sympathy with the other men.

Protest Against Existing Methods.—At this stage, Mr. Hunkin protested against the method adopted of insisiting on those who were dissatisfied having to attach their names to a plaint. It had worked out prejudicially in some instances. He thought the difficulty could be overcome by a statutory declaration by the secretary of the union, the same as in New South Wales.

The Deputy President stated that if Mr. Hunkin found a case in which the methods adopted proved injurious to the men, he ought to bring it under his notice.

Mr. Hunkin said that during the past six months he had been trying to tabulate suggested amendments to court procedure and legislation which his experience had convinced him were necessary. Unfortunately, owing to pressure of business, he had not been able to complete the task.

Mr. Parsons made a statement to the effect that in some cases the organisers were fermenters of trouble.

The Deputy President said that the plaint could be put into the hands of the registrar, and having satisfied himself that it was properly signed, the document should remain in his hands. The certificate could be the basis of the proceedings before the court.

Mr. Parsons intimated that his case was closed.

The Friendly Societies.—Mr. Francis asked the Deputy President to consider the advisableness of making a variation in any award to meet the special needs and conditions of his institution. He stated that after outlining his case, he would ask permission to go into the witness box to give evidence, and trusted that that course would expedite matters and render it unnecessary for him to call any further witnesses. The institutions he represented were incorporated bodies, registered under Friendly Societies Acts (more especially that of 1910) for the purpose of providing medical attendance and medical comforts for, and dispensing and selling or supplying medicines, surgical appliances, requisites, and comforts to the members and various dependants. The Friendly Societies Amendment Act 1910 provided the necessary machinery for the establishment of their associations. Those incorporated bodies were composed of the various societies and branches of friendly societies which had agreed to affiliate with other societies and branches for the purpose of carrying out the object set forth in section 4 of that Act. The question had been raised as to the membership of the friendly societies, but he would refer to figures from the Public Actuary's quinquennial report. While the majority of their members came from the working or trades union class there was also a large number of members whose financial position was such that they were not actually in need of the the benefits of his society, but who fully recognised the spirit of fraternity which stood behind all their societies—the men who were prepared to pay their contribution, knowing full well that they would be used to assist brothers who, through no fault of their own, were at some time or other in need of assistance during sickness or distress. A body of men who by their thrift and foresight, by their prudence and energy, were able by means of small weekly payments to accumulate large sums and to provide for medical attendance and medicine alone in South Australia and average for the last five years £28,325 per annum was worthy of special consideration at the hands of the court. It was with the item of medical attendance and medicine that they, as dispensaries, were specially concerned. Their institutions were not conducted for profit, but existed solely for the purpose of providing members with certain benefits in return for fixed definite quarterly payments, which could not well be increased under the existing rules and regulations of the various friendly societies. They were governed solely by the Friendly Societies Acts, and were

Not Subject to the Pharmacy Act.—As a matter of fact, the Pharmacy Board of South Australia had recently ruled that they could not have an apprentice on the grounds that they did not keep an open shop, as prescribed by the Pharmacy Act. They could not, for instance, recoup themselves for any overtime payments by charging an extra 1/- for each prescription dispensed after hours, as had been stated before the court was at present being done by some of the retail chemists. Neither were they in a position to pass on any extra expense of that nature by an increased charge on their prescriptions, because all were free, and no charge was made for any of them. They would submit a proposed agreement which they wished to be the basis for a variation of any award the Deputy President might be pleased to make. There was a precedent for that course, and the dispensaries in the Sydney metropolitan area had recently concluded a separate agreement in an award of the Professional and Shopworkers' Board.

Dispensaries' Proposals.

The log submitted by Mr. Francis was as follows:—

1. *Hours*—48 hours per week shall constitute a week's work for all employees.

2. *Wages* (males)—The minimum rate of wages payable to persons affected by this award shall be as follows:—(a) Chief dispenser, £4 per week of 48 hours; (b) assistant dispensers, registered, £3/10/- per week of 48 hours; (c) assistant dispensers, unregistered, over 22 years of age, £3/5/- per week of 48 hours; (d) unregistered assistants, from 21 to 22 years of age, £3 per week of 48 hours; (e) relievers, meaning persons employed temporarily to take charge of or assist in a place where medicine is dispensed, 25 per cent. in excess of the rates above, provided that the period of employment does not exceed six days, and if the period of employment exceeds six days, not less than the minimum rates above; (f) improvers and (or) apprentices, first year, 10/- per week, second year 15/-, third year 25/-, fourth year 36/-.

3. *Wages* (females)—The minimum rate payable shall be 20 per cent. below the rates stated above.

4. *Overtime.*—All overtime work in excess of 48 hours in any week shall be at the rate of time and a half, with a minimum of 1/- per hour for improvers and apprentices.

5. *Holidays.*—All gazetted public holidays shall be observed as such without any deduction from the weekly pay, provided that any assistant may be required to work not more than two hours on any one such holiday.

6. *Annual Holidays.*—After the completion of 12 months' service, each employee shall be allowed two weeks' holiday on full pay in each year, in addition to all public holidays before mentioned.

7. *Proportion Clause*—One apprentice or improver to one adult assistant. One extra apprentice or improver to every additional two adult assistants.

8. *Exemption.*—This agreement shall not apply to persons engaged exclusively at soda fountains, nurses, typists, or clerks who may be engaged in the institutions.

On January 23 J. H. Francis continued his evidence.

In reply to Mr. Parsons, the witness said it was customary at the Port Adelaide Dispensary to close the door at 8.30 p.m. As a rule there were still some customers in the shop when the door was closed, and usually it was five or ten minutes later before the dispensers finished their work. Occasionally they were there till ten minutes to 9 o'clock. It was very unusual for cus-

tomers to go to the dispensary after 8.30 p.m. By Mr. Hunkin.—The business at the dispensary was mostly with lodge patients, and the present hours appeared to suit them. It was not possible for the doctors to consult earlier than from 7 to 8 o'clock, and in consequence the dispensers could not be allowed to go at 8 o'clock. A fair average of the prescriptions dispensed after 6 o'clock would be about one-third of the day's output. From 6 o'clock to 8.30 o'clock the dispensers were fully engaged. The business began to fall off gradually at about 8 o'clock. The witness was of opinion that if care were used in the management of customers a good deal of night work could be obviated. In Sydney the closing hour for the dispensaries was 7.30 p.m., and there were more dispensaries, and the witness thought they had not such a wide area to serve as the Port Adelaide or Hindmarsh dispensary. The closing at 7.30 p.m. only came into operation on January 1 this year, and the Secretary had informed the witness that one of the problems they would have to deal with would probably be associated with overtime. In Melbourne the closing hour was 8 p.m. under the Early Closing Act, but the dispensers did not get away till about 9 o'clock. The hours worked at the societies' dispensary in this State were satisfactory. The late rushes of business could not be met by the payment of overtime, as the witness did not think it would be a fair thing. In the payment of their men no notice was taken of the question whether or not they were registered. They paid their chief dispenser at North-terrace £4 a week. In 1915 they advertised for an assistant, at £3 10s. a week, and they received applications from two or three men who were in business on their own account, and were prepared to give up their own businesses to take the position. They allowed two weeks' holiday a year on full pay. The nature of the work rendered an annual leave necessary, and they insisted on the employees taking it. By Mr. Parsons—They had three dispensaries. The men in charge of the Hindmarsh and Port Adelaide establishments were registered. No extra pay was allowed for work done after 8.30 p.m., and it was not proposed that there was to be extra payment in such circumstances under the new log which they had submitted to the court.

After some discussion concerning the difficulties under which the friendly societies' dispensaries would be confronted if the employees' log were accepted, Mr. Hunkin intimated that he would be prepared to recommend the acceptance of the friendly societies' log for the present if an assurance were given that when normal conditions should return the rates would be reconsidered. He thought he could say on behalf of the men concerned that they would be prepared to adopt that log.

The Deputy-President said that would help to simplify matters. Referring to the question whether or not the employers generally could afford to give increases in the rates of pay, the Deputy-President said he was not going to assume that because two or three businesses had not been good paying concerns the rest of the shops made only small profits. Two or three proprietors had been prepared to give up their businesses to take a position at £3 10s. a week, but these might be exceptions.

Mr. Parsons submitted that the court was not entitled to assume that they were exceptions.

At this stage a witness was recalled to give evidence concerning the effect on the employers of granting the increases in the rates of pay asked for. He said it would be very difficult to pass any increases on. There were standard prices for most of the goods sold, including ordinary 8-oz. bottles of medicine, dispensed according to prescriptions.

The Deputy-President: Are any of the prices fixed by the Prices Regulation Board?

The Witness: Yes; children's food. The wholesale and retail prices are fixed in some instances, but where the wholesale prices are fixed the warehouses add the amount of the discount they have been in the habit of giving, and then deduct it, bringing the price to the amount fixed by the board. If a line came to £1, for instance, it would be invoiced at £1 0s. 6d., and the sixpence would be deducted in the ordinary way as discount, thus bringing the net amount paid to the exact figure the wholesale dealer was entitled to charge under the decision of the board. This was done even in cases in which the board had not reduced the price previously charged. (Laughter.)

Counsel's Addresses.

Mr. Parsons, addressing the court, said he wished to treat the matter under four heads—(1) The spread of the hours; (2) the number of hours which the employees had to work; (3) the classification of employees; and (4) the rates of pay. As regarded the spread of hours, he submitted that the case made out in favour of 9 o'clock closing at night was overwhelming. He referred to the evidence of several witnesses to show the amount of business done at night. He mentioned in connection with the friendly societies' dispensaries that the doctors consulted on the premises. If it was necessary for them to remain open till 8.30 p.m., the ordinary chemist, whose customers did not consult the doctors on their premises, but might have to walk for some distance, could not, without interfering with the public convenience, close before 9 o'clock. The opening time had been 8 o'clock, but the employers proposed to make it three-quarters of an hour later. This would make a fair start. The evidence concerning Sunday employment confirmed the view that the shops should open for one hour and a-half in the morning, and from 7 till 9 in the evening. The hours worked on public holidays should be the same as those on Sundays. He contended that the hours of work should be:—Monday to Friday, 8.45 a.m. till 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 8.45 till 1 p.m., and from 6.30 p.m. till 9 p.m.; Sundays, 11 till 12.30 in the morning, and 7 till 9 p.m. The employees were asking for a 48-hour week, and the employers submitted that there should be 106 hours a fortnight, with a maximum of 56 hours in any week. He had asked the employers, however, if it would not be possible to reduce those hours, and the result was that they now asked for 103 hours a fortnight. The Australian standard of 48 hours was not of universal application. The

peculiar circumstances of the business had to be considered.

The court adjourned until the following day, when

Mr. Parsons continued his address. He submitted that there should be no classification of managers. It was incidental of the employment of resident managers that they might be called to serve at any hour of the night. Concerning chief assistants, he submitted that as there were very few of these in the business there should be no separate classification of these. If a minimum were fixed for registered assistants chief assistants would be included. He also argued that the time had not yet arrived for classifying female assistants. There were one or two employed in the industry.

The Deputy-President said he thought that very shortly the question of female assistants in industries generally would have to be thoroughly considered.

Mr. Parsons thought that was so, and that in the meantime the question of the female assistants in the chemists' business might stand over. When the need arose that matter could be dealt with. Referring to the rates of pay, Mr. Parsons said he wished to refer to the decision of Mr. Justice Higgins in the meat industry.

The Deputy-President pointed out that the butcher could pass on to his customers any additional cost he was put to. The chemist could not conveniently do so. Increases in wages tended to increase the cost of living. It was pleasing to note, however, that, according to the latest Commonwealth Bulletin on the subject, the cost of living had shown a downward tendency since the third quarter of 1915 and throughout 1916.

Mr. Parsons contended that there was nothing in the award of Mr. Justice Higgins to indicate that he intended £3 10s. a week awarded as the minimum for butchers serving behind the counter should be taken as the minimum for shop assistants generally. There might have been special reasons for that award, such as the arduous or the unpleasant character of the work, or the better organisation of the industry, or other reasons. He mentioned that Mr. Justice Higgins had fixed the basic wage for labourers at 10s. a day, whereas the President of the South Australian Arbitration Court had fixed the living wage at £2 14s. a week. The real question was the amount in excess of the living wage the chemists' assistants were entitled to. They had to consider the minimum rate for registered men and other classes of employees. He referred to the rates paid in other States. He said the evidence indicated that the minimum for registered men in Brisbane was £3 10s. a week, in Sydney £3 10s. 8d., and in Melbourne £3 10s. The rates actually paid in Melbourne ranged from £3 10s. to £5. Those rates, he submitted, showed that the employees' offer of £3 15s. a week for registered men was a fair one. In Sydney the friendly societies' dispensaries paid more than the shops.

Mr. Hunkin addressed the court on behalf of the employees. He said he realised that some of the proposals of the employees, if given effect to, would result in seemingly drastic changes in the industry. This was particularly so in respect to the request for 6 o'clock finishing time for assistants. That proposal had been strenuously opposed, but all reforms met with opposition. In this connection he referred to the early closing of shops. He had been personally interested in that movement and had taken an active part in the campaign and in drafting the statute.

The Deputy-President said that was a piece of progressive legislation, but he ahought Mr. Hunkin would not say that the Act did no injustice to anyone.

Mr. Hunkin: I do not know of any instance of injustice.

The Deputy-President said it closed up a number of small shops. Although it might have been a great benefit to the community as a whole, it affected the rights of a great many people. He quite agreed that early closing had been a great general benefit, and he did not think anyone would desire that the old order should be reverted to.

Mr. Hunkin said the evidence in the present case showed that a lot of business was done after 6 o'clock that could well be done before that hour. The application of the chemists' assistants to that court showed that they desired to participate in the progressive emancipation of the wage-earners. The applicants were men of special qualification. They had to be if they were to discharge their duties efficiently. Evidence had been given that only 186 had been entered on the records of the Pharmaceutical Society in 20 years. Those figures showed the disadvantages of the profession kept aspiring youths from entering it. The employees asked for a definite classification. He submitted that there should be a separate award for managers, who might be divided into two classes—those who had the entire management of the shop, but did not have the responsibility of buying, and those who were also buyers, and attended to financial matters. He referred to the New South Wales determination in support of the contention that managers should be classified. He submitted that the maximum rent an employer should be allowed to charge a resident manager for his house accommodation should be 10s. a week. A resident manager might be called on at any hour to mix an urgent prescription. Possibly the average rental value would be £1 per week. The balance between the rent actually paid and the value of the house accommodation could be regarded as a set-off for broken rest and work done outside the ordinary log hours. Referring to the question of hours, Mr. Hunkin submitted that the recognised Australian standard was 48 hours a week. Mr. Justice Higgins had said in the meat industry case that he could not see any reason why the 48 hours principle could not be applied to shop assistants. By awarding 48 hours the Deputy-President would not be introducing a new departure into the business. That principle had been in operation for some years in New South Wales. He referred to the evidence of some of the witnesses for the employers, and argued that it indicated that by a little rearrangement and organisation it would be possible to confine the hours to 48 hours a week. He did not claim the 48 hours, however, for resident managers of shops. He admitted that it might be necessary for the services of these men to be available outside the recognised hours for the

ordinary assistants. Concerning the question of wages, Mr. Hunkin said he thought the offer of the employers was totally inadequate. He submitted that the log asked for by the employees was a reasonable one.

The Deputy-President complimented Mr. Hunkin. He said: "I cannot say how much I admire the way you have conducted this case. I am sure the employees are greatly indebted to you."

Judgment was reserved.

P.A.T.A.

VICTORIA.

At the January meeting of the P.A.T.A. Council, at which Mr. S. Fripp, Jun., presided, an interesting situation was disclosed in connection with a retailer who defied the P.A.T.A. contracts. In this case the retailer, having stocked himself with a particular line, proceeded immediately to sell at under the prevailing rate. His neighbouring competitors flooded the P.A.T.A. with protests, and the offending retailer was interviewed. He promised to keep faith, and then calmly ignored his own promise. His competitors naturally condemned him and the P.A.T.A., and the manufacturer for the continuation of this position, and, meantime, matters all round were open to misunderstanding.

The necessary steps were taken, and when the offending retailer found that the P.A.T.A. manufacturers were unwilling to supply him with his Xmas lines, it only took him another fortnight to see what his real position was. Now he has given out orders under a written guarantee to maintain the conditions under which he purchases, and his competitors in that district are satisfied that the P.A.T.A. in some instances renders them a service.

During the Xmas month a number of fancy lines had their prices "smashed" by traders anxious to increase their sales, and almost daily complaining reports came to hand. In every reported instance the P.A.T.A. was able to check this trouble.

It had to be admitted that in one or two particulars the P.A.T.A. so far had not succeeded, and this was to some extent due to the retailers failing to report the situation in the district until the lower price had become a general one, and the damage had been done. It is easy to stop a leak, but it is impossible to stem the tide. However, even in the most apparently hopeless cases, if retailers, whether P.A.T.A. members or not, will advise their suppliers or the P.A.T.A. that conditions of sale are not being maintained, their representations will receive prompt attention.

Victorian Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the P.A.T.A. will be held at Sargent's on March 21st. The president (Mr. S. Fripp, jnr.), it is stated, will be in a position to give a very satisfactory account of the past work from every point of view. The number of articles on the list has increased, and the membership is extending, and from the fact that the subscriptions have come forward more quickly this year than previously, indicates that the prospects for the year 1917 are encouraging.

W. H. MacLennan, Secretary.

Optical.

Opticians' Registration Bill.

A Bill to provide for the registration of opticians has been drafted and circulated by the Victorian Optical Association. The Bill provides that any person who, before the Act, has carried on the business of an optician and the practice of measuring the powers of vision, and the adaptation of lenses for aiding defective sight, shall be entitled to be registered. A board of registration is to be constituted, consisting of five persons, three of whom are to be competent opticians and two legally qualified medical practitioners. The board is to be empowered to appoint officers and examiners, and to examine witnesses on oath. A register of opticians is to be kept, and all persons whose names are enrolled thereon are to be described as "registered opticians." No person is to be registered unless he has attained the age of 21 years, and unless he has continuously for not less than 12 months immediately prior to the Act been engaged in Victoria in the practice of sight testing as a principal, or for not less than two years as an assistant. Vested rights under these qualifications are only to hold good for 12 months after the passing of the Act. The curriculum prescribed is a preliminary examination before apprenticeship, three years' apprenticeship to a registered optician, attendance at a course of lectures and the passing of the prescribed examinations. Provision is also made for the recognition of outside diplomas of competency. Registration under the Act is not to confer any right to assume the title of "oculist" or any other title which may imply that he is a medical practitioner, or to authorise the administration of any drug for the purpose of paralysing the accommodation of the eye for the purpose of measurement of the powers of vision. The Act is not to extend to or interfere with the rights and privileges of medical practitioners, wholesale dealers, and manufacturers. It is proposed to make it an offence under the Act for any person to practice sight-testing for a fee or charge, or to take or use the title of "registered optician," or any other title implying that he is registered under the Act, or is qualified to practice sight-testing. The penalty is not less than £3, and not more than £20, in addition to a penalty not exceeding £5 for every day during which his offence is committed after conviction. The proposed registration fee has been fixed at £5 5s. The Bill, which consists of 32 clauses, is evidently based on the Victorian Medical Act, Part III. It is a measure much more likely to secure approval than the Bill which was drafted some two or three years ago. The only comment which might be made is that seeing that so many pharmacists also practice as opticians, provision might have been made for pharmacists to be represented on the opticians' board. It is understood that the Chief Secretary has indicated that he will make an effort to get the Bill passed during the forthcoming session of Parliament.

Optical Class.

In consequence of the outbreak of war, the lectures in Practical Optics which were held at the College of Pharmacy under the auspices of the

Victorian Optical Association, were discontinued during the years 1015 and 1016. Several inquiries have been made as to whether this course can now be resumed. We are asked to state that if a sufficient number of students enrol themselves, the course of lectures in Part I. will be resumed. Intending students should notify the Secretary of the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, during the next three weeks, if they desire to attend the class. The fee is £5 5s.

Correspondence.

Letters submitted for publication must be addressed to the Editor, and should reach the Office not later than the 16th of the month. They should be written clearly and concisely, on one side of the paper only, and must be authenticated in each case by the name and address of the writer. The views expressed by correspondents are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor.

To the Editor, *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Cypher Prescriptions and "Consulting Chemists."

Sir,—

In the January issue of the Journal just to hand, you ask for information re cypher scrips. I have not a cypher scrip to bring under your notice, but a practise which was in operation not a hundred miles from here not longer than six months since, and presumably still going strong, I know, because the offender "put me wise." Dr. Snuff, let us say, orders—

Hyd. Subchlor gv.
P. Sacch Lact. gv.

So far all clear sailing, but if you are not the favoured pharmacist you will get a shock when you are told you have made up the medicine wrongly. And no wonder, when the secret understanding is that the excipient for all powders ordered by Dr. Snuff should contain a trituration of 1.8 of carmine. In Australese it is plain dirt. Plainer language might be used.

Re your comment on page 3 (Practice by Pharmacists), obviously the bulk of the profession is honest, but the kind pictured by M.D. abound. I know of three, and the fact that doctors did their own dispensing (which they don't in their several vicinities) would have as much weight for or against their methods as a snowball in Tophet. If the B.M.A. have the power to move against them, they are easily enough caught, so what is the use of "M.D.'s" writing to his journal. Talk does nothing. The only argument that appeals to the "consulting" gentry is £ s. d. They don't know what "ethics" means, and craft camaraderie is totally beyond their comprehension.

I am, etc.,
Yours, etc.,
THE LAMB.

To the Editor of *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Wrecking a Drug Store.

Sir,—Lest your readers are apt to condemn the American pharmacist whose shop was wrecked by the police in the Hotel Washington annex for selling intoxicants, I would ask them to stay their judgment and opinions until they learn more of the peculiar methods of this country. My opinions of America have been those of admiration, and in the past I have looked towards that land with a hope of some day finding a place where the many disconcerting "ideals" of Australia would not be tolerated, yet though I feel sure that there are many Americans of the good old British and foreign stock who were descended from the highest adventurous spirits, still of later years less desirable immigrants have made America their home. Many of these have attained official positions, and wield a power, whereby safety is only purchased by paying for it. My dearest friend having lately come back from a visit to the United States, has effectually destroyed my preconceived notions in favour of that country. My informant tells me that in dry districts the hotels do a flourishing business, except on certain days, when customers are notified that no drink will be sold. I don't know the facts of the case of the pharmacist referred to in your last issue, but I am satisfied that no self-respecting people would tolerate such an outrageous and wanton destruction of property. Until the country is purified by war, I am afraid we must expect the repetition of incidents such as you refer to.

Yours, etc.,
"LET THE LIGHT SHINE."

To the Editor of *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

The Aspirin Licence.

Sir,

At the General Quarterly Meeting of the Sydney Western Suburbs Association held on 24th January, 1917, a resolution was carried—

"That the Prime Minister be again "communicated with by letter, urging "upon him a decision with regard to the "suggested declaration by him of the "word "Eutosal," as a synonym for "Acetylsalicylic Acid."

In accordance with this a letter was written, and again signed by the Presidents of the Pharmaceutical Organisations in N.S.W. That letter, copy of which I enclose, was sent to the Prime Minister on February 6th. I shall be obliged if you will find space for it in the next issue of your Journal.

Yours faithfully,
T. HISLOP DICK,
Hon. Secretary.

[COPY.]

Sydney, Feb. 6th, 1917.

The Right Honourable
William Morris Hughes, M.H.R.,
Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Re EUTOSAL, AS SYNONYM FOR ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID.

Sir,

Referring to our letter of the 20th November, 1916, advocating the declaration by you of "Eutosal" as a synonym for the drug Acetylsalicylic Acid, now included in the British Pharmacopœia, and originally introduced under

the trade name Aspirin, we desire to state further.

That in our knowledge there is urgent need for a short and easy name for Acetylsalicylic Acid under which name the drug is still being sold.

That we have refrained from attempting to register the name "Eutosal," and have refused permission to make use of it, so as not in any way to prejudice our request to you to declare it a synonym for Acetylsalicylic Acid.

That your declaration would ensure that every drug sold under that name is Acetylsalicylic Acid and that it conforms in purity to the standard laid down by the British Pharmacopœia.

That such declaration will be no infringement of any other person's proprietary trade rights.

That if we register the name "Eutosal" ourselves and throw it open for use by all, we shall have to assume an enormous responsibility and it will be a matter of great difficulty to ensure the genuineness and purity of the drug sold under that name.

We do not desire to make any profit out of, nor to place any restriction upon the use of the name.

We therefore request you to give the matter your early attention, and let us have your decision.

We are, Sir,
Yours faithfully,

F. P. J. GRAY, President,
Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.
A. WADSWORTH, President,
Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.
L. TUCKER, President,
N.S.W. Association of Master Pharmacists.
H. D. B. COX, President,
Northern Sydney Pharmacists' Association.
F. LLOYD, President,
Sydney Eastern Suburbs' Pharmacists' Assoc.
H. P. OLSON, President.
Illawarra District Pharmacists' Association.
C. F. WEBSTER, President,
Sydney Western Suburbs' Pharmacists' Assoc.

Reviews.

A Critical Revision of the Genus Eucalyptus.—By J. H. Maiden, I.S.O., F.R.S., F.L.S., Government Botanist of New South Wales, and Director of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Vol. III., Part 8. Published by the Government of the State of New South Wales.

The publication of this part completes the revision by Mr. Maiden of 148 species of Eucalyptus, and includes in itself consideration of 4 species, viz., Eucalyptus vernicosa, E. Muelleri, E. Kitsoniana, and E. viminalis. Of these the habitat of E. vernicosa and E. Muelleri is limited to Tasmania. E. vernicosa appears generally as a shrub, becoming occasionally arboraceous, and grows at an altitude of about 4000 feet. E. Muelleri grows at a somewhat lower altitude, and may attain a great height (200 feet); nevertheless it has been looked upon, owing to the trifling structural differences, as being a lowland form of E. vernicosa. Mr. Maiden, however, has come to the conclusion that they are distinct species. E. Kitsoniana is a dwarf species, growing chiefly in poor boggy country in Gippsland. It is not important from any point of view, but is interesting from the fact that it has been distributed under the name of E. Kitsoni. As this name has been already applied by Mr. Henry Deane to a fossil species from Berwick, Mr. Maiden has adopted the specific name of Kitsoniana for the species now under notice. E. viminalis is a "manna gum," and is widely distributed. It is found in every State of the Commonwealth excepting Western Australia. The species sometimes attains a very great height, and von Mueller quotes Mr. D. Boyle as having measured one in the Dandenong Ranges which he found to be 320 feet high. The manna is exuded from the leaves, twigs and bark, and the flow is promoted by previous rains and subsequent heat. From the twigs and leaves it may exude spontaneously, but from the bark it appears to flow from punctures by Cicadæ. E. rubida, in New South Wales at least, yields manna more abundantly than E. viminalis. Four plates of the usual excellence accompany the text of this part. S.P.

NOTICES.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

THE 60th ANNUAL MEETING of the Members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia will be held at the College of Pharmacy, Swanston-street, Melbourne, on Wednesday, 14th March, 1917, at 8.30 o'clock p.m.

BUSINESS.

1. To confirm the minutes of the 59th annual meeting, and to deal with any business arising therefrom.
2. Election of Four Members of the Council, and Two Auditors.
3. Adoption of Annual Report and Financial Statements.
4. President's Address.
5. To transact any other business of which due notice has been given.

(a) Mr. Pickford has given notice that he will move that the Articles of Association be altered so as to give the Council power to deal with members using the title of "Consulting Chemist."

(b) The Council desires to give members an opportunity of discussing the proposed Wages Board, and will submit a report dealing with the matter.

C. L. BUTCHERS,
Secretary.

Melbourne,
7th February, 1917.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, MELBOURNE.

The LECTURES IN CHEMISTRY AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY to Dental Students will commence on March 5th. Fee, £2/12/6. These lectures, which are held on Mondays, 2.15 to 4.15 p.m., are recommended as an excellent preliminary course in Chemistry for pharmaceutical students.

Trade & Commerce.

The "Aspirin" Licence.

According to an official statement supplied to the press, "the system under which licences are granted Australian manufacturers to use enemy trade marks and trade names is being reviewed by the Federal Attorney-General's department. After investigation a licence was issued some time ago to a Melbourne firm to use the German name "aspirin." Before the permit was granted the firm was called upon to satisfy the authorities that its product was a complete substitute for the foreign drug; also to enter into a substantial bond to maintain an even standard of quality. The terms of the licence provide that the Commonwealth Analyst shall be afforded an opportunity of examining samples of the locally manufactured drug. The firm is abiding by this condition, and the Attorney-General's department sees no reason why the demand raised in certain quarters for the cancellation of the licence should be officially granted."

Prices Regulations.

Prices Order No. 108, which came into force on January 29, fixes the price of Neave's Food in Queensland at 14s. 9d. per doz. wholesale, and 1s. 5d. per tin retail. Places distant ten miles from the G.P.O., Brisbane, may add transportation charges.

Order No. 113 (9/2/17) fixes the following maximum prices for Fry's Homoeopathetic Cocoa:—Wholesale, 1s. 5½d. per lb.; retail, 1s. 8½d. per lb., 10½d. per ½ lb., 5½d. per 4 oz. packet. Fry's Malted Cocoa—Wholesale, 11s. per doz.; retail, 1s. 1d. per tin. These rates apply to the area 10 miles from the G.P.O., Melbourne. Transportation charges may be added in the case of towns in Victoria outside the radius referred to

Prices of "Lactogen" and "Glaxo" within the metropolitan areas of the States of the Commonwealth were fixed on February 19th as follow:

	Wholesale.	Retail.
No. 1	15/6 per doz. ..	1/6 per tin
,, 2	25/9 ,, .	2 6 ,,
,, 3	£2/- ,, ..	6/- ,,

Outside of the metropolitan areas the wholesale and retail prices are the prices at the place of purchase, plus cost of transportation.

Prohibited Preparations.

The Governor-General by Proclamation dated 24 January, 1917, has prohibited the importation into Australia of the undermentioned preparations "in the interests of the public health and welfare":—

The Keeley Cure for Opium Habit, Drunkenness, Neurasthenia, Tobacco Habit (The Leslie E. Keeley Co., Dwight, Illinois);

Woods' Treatment for Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco Habits (E. J. Woods Ltd., London);

Drink Habit Cure (Neale Institute Co., Des Moines, Iowa);

Dipsosava (Venn's Chemical Co., England);

Dipsocure (The Carlton Chemical Co., England);

Antidipso (Ward Chemical Co., England);

and of any preparation purporting to be a remedy for Drunkenness, Alcoholic Habit, Opium Habit, Tobacco Habit, Cocaine Habit, or other drug habits.

New Zealand.

Prohibition of Kugelman's Remedies.

Under the Customs Act 1913 the importation into New Zealand has been prohibited of all goods known as Kugelman's herbal remedies, and of all other remedies, drugs, medicines, or medical appliances manufactured or supplied or purporting to be manufactured or supplied by one Kugelman, or bearing any name or trade description referring in any manner to the said Kugelman, and of all written or printed advertising matter relating solely or principally to any such goods.

Federal Income Tax Assessment Act, 1915-16.

The following information, setting out some of the requirements of the Federal Income Tax Assessment Act, has been supplied by Mr. J. S. Eastwood, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Taxation:—

Resident on Business Premises.—If a chemist or druggist resides on business premises owned by himself, he should include as income 5 per cent. of the capital value of the portion used by him for residential purposes. If he resides on rented business premises, he should reduce his claim for rent by the annual rental value of the portion so used. Generally, the portion of the business premises used by a chemist for residential purposes is deemed to be two-thirds.

Wages and Salaries.—If deductions are claimed for wages and salaries paid, a statement should be attached to the return, showing the names, addresses, and amounts paid to employees in receipt of more than £100 per annum.

Bad Debts.—A deduction on account of bad debts is also allowed, provided the debts have been incurred in the year on which the tax is based or the previous year, and actually written off in the year of taxation. A list showing the names and addresses of the debtors, the amount of each debt, and the date on which it was incurred and actually written off should be attached to the return.

General Expenses.—If a deduction is claimed under this heading, it should be supported by a statement showing an analysis of the expenditure. If any extraordinary expense is included, it should be clearly set out with an explanatory note.

Payment of Tax.—Assessment notices will be issued to all taxpayers liable for tax. Thirty days from the date of the notice will be allowed within which to make payment. If payment is not made within this time, 10 per cent. additional tax by way of penalty for late payment automatically accrues.

Trade Notes.

Egyptian Eye Salve.—Mr. Walter J. W. Childs, 325 Flinders-lane, has purchased the proprietary rights of this well-known eye-remedy. Egyptian Eye Salve is recommended as a specific for diseases of the eye, and is said to be very efficacious in districts where blight is prevalent. It has been sold in large quantities to soldiers on military service. For treating horses and dogs with inflamed eyes, it is also efficacious. Egyptian Eye Salve is stocked by all the wholesale houses. Price to the trade, 21/- per doz.

Trade Mark Applications.

Class 2.—Chemical Substances, Disinfectants, Etc.

Aero.—A. M. Bickford and Sons Ltd., Adelaide.

Class 3.—Medicinal Preparations used in Pharmacy.

Calol.—Standard Oil Company, San Francisco, California.

Nupines.—W. B. Cartwright Ltd., Rawdon, England.

Harlza.—Henry Macauley, trading as The British Medicine and Health Institute, Sydney, New South Wales.

Digestone.—Henry Macauley, Sydney, New South Wales.

Chrismol.—Allen and Hanbury's Ltd., London, England.

Bynin.—Allen and Hanburys Ltd., London.

Carlista Powder.—Washington H. Soul and Co., Ltd., Sydney.

Nervoids.—James Charles Minnis, M.P.S., Blackall, Queensland.

Soconol.—Standard Oil Company of New York, United States of America.

Class 4.—Perfumery, Soaps, Toilet Articles, Etc.

Cosmos.—A. E. and F. Tolley Ltd., Adelaide, general merchants.

Dentol.—Angus Robert Bain, trading as Bain and Co., St. Kilda, Victoria.

Sunkist.—Lever Bros. Ltd., Balmain, New South Wales.

Ovovo.—Lever Bros. Ltd., Balmain, New South Wales.

Volnus.—Sayers, Allport Prop. Ltd., Sydney, New South Wales.

Miracura.—Nirvana Soap Co., Ltd., Redfern, Sydney.

Hasu-No-Hana.—John Lipscomb Grossmith, London, E.C.

Kerrema.—A. G. Kerr, Brisbane, Queensland.

Business For Sale.

FOR SALE.—CHEMIST'S BUSINESS in Sydney, situated in commanding position at important Tramway Junction. LARGE PRESCRIPTION and GENERAL BUSINESS. Turnover rapidly increasing. Books kept and every facility for investigation given to genuine buyer. Snap at £1500. W. J. CARTER, Business Broker, 63 Military-road, Neutral Bay, North Sydney, N.S.W.

War Notes.

Promotion.

Quartermaster and Honorary Lieutenant J. A. Heath, Australian Army Medical Corps (Permanent Services) to be Quartermaster and Honorary Captain.

Victorian Apprentices in War Service. New Regulations Under Medical Act.

The Governor in Council on 25th January, 1917, approved of the following regulations relating to chemists' apprentices on war service:—

Every chemist's apprentice on war service within the meaning of the Medical Act 1916 whose indentures of apprenticeship have been duly registered pursuant to the regulations of the Board desirous of applying to the Board under the provisions of the said Act for suspension of the said indentures during the period of his absence from his said employment in consequence of his being on war service and for remission of portion of his term of apprenticeship shall apply in the manner and within the time following that is to say:—

(*a*) He shall make an application to the Board in writing specifying his requirements and the grounds of his application.

(*b*) The application shall be made within three months after discharge or return to Victoria or within such further time as the Board in its discretion may allow in any particular case.

(*c*) The applicant shall furnish with the application a statutory declaration according to the Schedule hereto or to the like effect.

(*d*) The applicant shall furnish such further proof to the satisfaction of the Board as it may in any particular case require.

A form of statutory declaration is appended to the Regulations.

Phosphorus Prohibition.

Several pharmacists have asked for information as to whether it is necessary for them to obtain a permit from the military authorities before they can sell phosphorus, and if, also, each individual customer requiring phosphorus must also obtain a permit. In reply to these enquiries, the Defence Department states that permits in both cases are necessary, and that no relaxation of the regulation has been authorised. The effect of this is that a farmer, for instance, requiring phosphorus for rabbit destruction must first of all get an order from the Defence Department to purchase the phosphorus and the chemist in his turn must get the written permission of the Department to sell it. All communications on the subject should be addressed to Major Jones, Intelligence Department, Military Barracks, St. Kilda-road, Melbourne.

Sale of Enemy Goods.

The Federal Attorney-General (Mr. Hughes) announced on 10th February that the time for the sale, wholesale, of goods which had recently arrived by an ex-enemy steamer, which left Ger-

many before the beginning of the war, would be extended until April 30. No restriction would, for the present, be imposed on the time within which these goods might be sold retail. This announcement does not apply to any of the goods bearing enemy trade marks which have been suspended, unless the permission of the Attorney-General's Department is obtained for the sale of those particular goods.

The Late Lieutenant A. A. Chapman.

General regret was expressed at the news received on February 8th that Lieut. Alick A. Chapman, of the 12th Field Ambulance A.I.F.,

had died on January 27 from wounds received in France. Lieut Chapman went through the Gallipoli campaign, and then went on to the Somme front. He saw service in the South African war. He served his apprenticeship to Mr. F. Buckhurst, Melbourne, and, after completing this, he spent some time as an assistant in the country. He then returned to Melbourne, and qualified as a pharmacist, afterwards joining the staff of Mr. H. B. Taylor, of Richmond. From thence he went to Messrs. Martin and Pleasance, Melbourne. He was with the latter firm when he enlisted. Lieut. Chapman attended the College of Pharmacy in 1898, at the same time as Major Cossar and Mr. C. J. Gabriel. The friendship then formed lasted throughout his life-time. He was an enthusiastic cricketer, and started his career during his College years in a match between the past and present students. Since then he has been a fairly regular player, and represented Victoria in five out of the seven Interstate Chemists' matches which have taken place. His batting was always consistent, and his bowling could almost always be relied on. In the 1910 Interstate match he took 7 for 47 in the first innings, and 5 for 47 in the second. In this match he earned great applause for bowling L. W. Pye behind his legs with a ball which had a tremendous break in it. He frequently played in pennant matches with the Richmond Cricket Club first eleven. Lieut. Chapman was a fine sportsman, and he greatly endeared himself to all who knew him. His death at the age of 37 is all the more regrettable as he was due for promotion, and had he lived another few weeks he would have received a Captaincy. He leaves a widow and two children to mourn his loss.

New South Wales.

Gunner Karl Matthews, son of Mr. J. D. Matthews, chemist, of Blayney, was killed in France on January 22nd. He was 25 years of age, and, prior to enlistment, was a clerk in the Commercial Bank at Cessnock. He fought for two months in the trenches

Mr. A. V. Kiernan, formerly of Elizabeth-street, Sydney, has been reported as dead by the authorities. There has been considerable uncertainty about this gentleman's fate. He was known to have been severely wounded at Gallipoli, and removed on a hospital ship, but whether he was taken to Egypt or Lemnos was not known. After months of uncertainty and anxiety, the Court of Inquiry has reported him as having died of wounds.

The Late Dr. H. Froude Flashman.—News of the death of Colonel Dr. H. Froude Flashman of pneumonia in France was received in Sydney by cable on February 14. Dr. Flashman was an old Sydney boy, and very well known and highly respected in Sydney. Some years ago, on the outbreak of small-pox in Sydney, he established the "Ehrlich Pathological Institute," and manufactured a series of serums, which met with a ready sale among the medical profession in Sydney. He was particularly successful with his "Vaccine Virus." The institute has lately been carried on under the name of "The Wandsworth Pathological Laboratory," and excellent and reliable work is done there. The address is 32 Elizabeth-street, Sydney.

News from France.

Lieut. Colin H. Simpson, 3rd Division Signallers Co., writing from France on December 20 to the Editor, relates some interesting experiences. After a solid and continuous training on Salisbury Plains, he went to France, where his company is now engaged in assisting in holding a famous part of the line. He depicts in graphic terms the terrible destruction wrought by concen-

trated shell fire. He is now as high as he can get in the Signal Service, being in charge of the Divisional War Report Centre. Speaking of the arrangements for the supply of food, Lieut. Simpson thinks that these are excellent, and that the Australian soldiers have very little to complain of on this ground. He has met many Victorian pharmacists. St.-Sergt. Crimmins was, at the time of writing, in hospital with mumps. St.-Sergt. Stahle was well, and had just received a copy of the *Journal of Pharmacy*. A pleasant hour was spent by both of them in looking over the journal, and gathering news of their College friends. Lieut. Simpson says he was very sorry to read about Douglas Towl's death. He refers to him as "a brilliant student and a fine chap, whose death we all deplore, but he sacrificed himself for his country, and he will for ever live in our memory." Will Rankin is at present on leave in England, and in good health. I had a letter from him to-day—he is visiting Scotland. Eric Cheshire is attached to my station. He is looking splendid. All of us are wishing we were back again, carrying on our peaceful vocation as pharmacists.

P. D. L.

New South Wales Directors Invest £100 in War Loan.

At a meeting of the directors of the New South Wales branch, held last month, it was decided to invest £100 in the Commonwealth War Loan. In adopting this poliy the directors felt that the members generally would approve of their action. The chairman pointed out that practically the whole of this amount had been obtained by way of commissions on the business of members, who had placed their insurances through the P.D.L. This fact indicated the possibilities of revenue from this source, and should be an incentive to those members who had not yet given the P.D.L. the benefit of their commissions and other insurance business to get into touch with Mr. Anderson, the secretary, who would be pleased to give every assistance in effecting transfers of their insurances. By forwarding to the secretary the due date of their insurance policies, members would be waited upon in ample time before the renewal premium required to be paid.

Personal & Business.

Properly authenticated paragraphs, preferably sent by the persons interested, are inserted under this heading

New South Wales.

Mr. H. L. Beard, of Sutherland, has closed his pharmacy.

Mr. J. Duncan, of Durno Limited, has gone for a holiday into the country.

Mr. W. G. Bladen is managing the pharmacy of Mrs. Casson, of Kogarah.

Mr. J. Fountain, formerly managing for Webb, of Hornsby, is opening a new pharmacy at Eastwood.

Mr. Morey, of Parramatta, has been recuperating at a camp on George's River. He recently returned to business looking remarkably fit.

Mr. R. H. Blair, formerly in business at Neutral Bay, is managing the pharmacy of Mr. Webb Hornsby, who is on active service abroad.

Mr. W. Penney, also a "consulting pharmacist," announces that he may now be consulted at Sydenham instead of at his former address at Darlington.

Mr. A. S. Ball, of Homebush, is holiday making in the New England district on the Queensland border. Mr. Meldrum is the registered manager during his absence.

Mr. Joscelyn has sold one of his North Sydney pharmacies to Mr. T. E. Johns, formerly manager at Williams' Pharmacy, at Darlinghurst, and late of South Yarra, Melbourne.

Mr. A. E. Earle, of Bombala, has been ill, and his son, Mr. Claude Earle, pharmacist of The Warren, has been on a visit to him, leaving his business in charge of Mr. J. Hall.

Mr. P. C. Davis, of Camperdown, is about again after his accident, which resulted in a broken leg. He is yet on crutches, but wears his perennial smile and hobbles round his shop.

Mr. P. D. Belcher, of 121 Miller-street, North Sydney, has sold his pharmacy to Mr. Sam Harris, late of Woonoona, near Bulli. It is reported that Mr. Belcher has the intention of enlisting.

Mr. E. Browne, formerly in charge of the U.F.S. Dispensary at Orange, has bought the pharmacy of Mr. Harvey of Mosman. It is said that Mr. Harvey intends offering himself for active service abroad.

Mr. A. J. Street, dispenser at the U.F.S. Dispensary at Lane Cove-road, North Sydney, has gone on his annual holidays, and Mr. J. Haynes, formerly of King-street, Sydney, has taken the duties during his absence.

Mr. F. J. Lennon, of Pitt-street, has removed his pharmacy to the opposite side of the street to that on which he originally opened about two years ago. Mr. Lennon is one of the advertising and consulting chemists of Sydney.

Mr. Lasker, of Lismore, has bought the pharmacy of the late Mr. J. S. Cobb, of Waverley. This pharmacy has for a considerable time been carried on by the widow of the late Mr. Cobb with qualified managers in charge.

Mr. Grosvenor John Williams, who has opened several pharmacies round Sydney, obtained his medical qualification at the Sydney University recently. He will still continue to be the proprietor of four flourishing pharmacies in Sydney suburbs under the name of "Williams, Chemist."

Mr. P. J. Hallinan, who has been taking a long holiday at Woy Woy, and later at the South Coast district, has returned to business. It is some years since Mr. Hallinan has been able to have a spell, and his busi-

ness at Haberfield has taxed his health. He returns to harness very fit.

Mr. Claude McNeilt, who has been in charge of the poisons at the warehouse of Elliott Brothers Limited for some time past, has been appointed one of the dispensers at the United Friendly Societies' Dispensary, Illawarra-road, Marrickville. Prior to his departure the employees of Elliott Brothers Limited made him a handsome presentation to mark their esteem.

Death of a Chemist.—We regret to have to report the death of Mr. R. Y. McKenzie, pharmacist of Rockdale. This gentleman formerly managed the pharmacy of Mr. W. E. Grigor, of George-street North. He died on February 14th, and the cause of death is said to have been cancer, from which he must have suffered for a considerable time. He had been in business at Rockdale since October, 1915, having purchased the branch pharmacy of Mrs. Casson.

Victoria.

Mr. G. V. Cook is assisting Mr. C. Westwood, Malvern.

Mr. S. Friedman is relieving at Mr. Carl Gadcke's, Fitzroy.

Mr. J. McLennan has gone to Mr. C. Hembrow, Beechworth.

Mr. F. G. Chamberlain is relieving Mr. L. C. Langford, Stawell.

Mr. W. L. Treen has been relieving Mr. S. H. Wheeler, Warragul.

Mr. D. Grounds is relieving at Mr. Garrick's pharmacy, Collingwood.

Mr. E. Plummer is relieving Mr. J. T. Sanders, of Mornington, for three weeks in March.

Mr. R. S. Younger, after a term with Mr. F. H. Cooper, Maffra, is now relieving Mr. S. Morrow, Daylesford.

Mr. A. McNeel relieves C. H. Yelland, of Carlton. Mr. Yelland is taking a holiday for two or three weeks.

Mr. P. J. Mulhall has been relieving Messrs. Bull and Owen, and is now with Mr. R. Cheeseman, Beaufort.

Mr. H. Meallen, lately with Mr. C. Hembrow, Beechworth, has gone to Mr. A. Stephens, Canterbury.

Mr. E. T. P. Davies has been relieving at Mr. W. M. Jewkes, Essendon, and at Messrs. Witt and Co., Prahran.

Mr. H. L. Hastings, who has been with Mr. Jas. Boully, has taken charge of the late Mr. B. S. Dawson's Pharmacy, Sale.

Mr. Charles Bale, late of Victoria-street, Collingwood, has purchased the business of Mr. Philip Wheeler, Chapel-street, Prahran.

Mr. S. Harris is relieving Mr. Cornu, of Kerang, and goes on to Mr. C. H. Flack, Oakleigh. Mr. Cornu has been a visitor to Melbourne during the month.

Mr. W. T. Linton has been relieving Mr. A. E. Sayer, Bendigo, and is going to the Eaglehawk U.F.S. Dispensary, Mr. W. K. Burnside having resigned as head dispenser.

Mr. D. Shaw, who has been relieving Mr. A. Madge, of Glenferrie, is now with Mr. A. W. Vale, of Kensington, and goes on to Mr. W. J. Williams, East Melbourne, until the end of March.

Mr. F. Wheeler, of Korrumburra, has been enjoying a holiday at Queenscliff. His daughter, Mrs. Andrews, has been relieving him. Mr. Wheeler has been in continuous business for 50 years.

Richmond U.F.S. Dispensary ended the year with 7497 members. Prescriptions dispensed in 1916 numbered 77,793, representing 116,638 articles. It is now 45 years since the dispensary was established.

Mr. J. G. McIlwaine has returned to business, having recovered from his recent operation. Mr. P. Winch, who has been managing his business during his absence, is relieving Mr. E. Daintree, of East Malvern, who is at present in ill-health.

Stawell Chemists' Hours.—By regulation under Factories and Shops Act, the chemists of Stawell have fixed their closing hours at 8 p.m. on week nights (excepting Saturdays, 10 p.m. and Wednesdays and Sundays at 12.30 p.m.) Power is given "to re-open in the evenings of Sunday and Wednesday from 7 to 8 p.m.

Wills and Estates.—Application is being made by The Union Trustee Company of Australia Limited for grant of probate of the will of Frank Clifford Lawson, late of Errol-street, North Melbourne, chemist, who died on 28th September last. Testator left estate valued at £2019, comprising realty £837, and personalty £1182, to his children.

Queensland.

Mr. J. Geddes is holidaying at Tweed Heads.

Mr. Eric Elliott, of Elliott Bros., is visiting Melbourne.

Mr. J. Kelleher is now managing the Mount Morgan Dispensary.

Mr. W. O. Hansen, of Wynnum, is on a visit to the Southern States.

Mr. F. G. Marshall, Bundaberg, has returned from a holiday in the south.

Mr. Lamb has been engaged by the Brisbane Friendly Societies' Dispensary.

Mr. P. Calligan has gone to the Friendly Societies' Dispensary, Brisbane.

Mr. F. B. Woods has taken the position with Mr. T. J. Luddy, Edward-street, Brisbane.

Mr. Grogan, formerly with Mr. R. C. Park, is now with Messrs. Moses, Ward and Sons.

Mr. J. P. Davies, of South Brisbane, has been holidaying with his wife and family at Redcliffe.

Mr. L. Simpson, late of Mr. L. A. Wilkinson, has been engaged by McGuffie and Co., Brisbane.

Mr. H. E. Barnes has again forsaken pharmacy. He has taken up a cattle station near Charleville.

Mr. J. W. Case, ex-president of the Pharmaceutical Society, was elected honorary secretary of the Institute of Ophthalmic Opticians of Queensland, at the annual meeting which was held on February 1.

Mr. F. S. Callinan, who was with Messrs. McGuffie and Co., for some time, has now gone to Mr. R. C. Park.

Mr. H. F. Smith has been elected president of the Queensland Institute of Ophthalmic Opticians for the year 1917-18.

Mr. Groundwater, who has left the Mount Morgan Dispensary, is now managing the City Pharmacy, Maryborough.

Business Closed.—The business carried on for many years by Mr. H. Rowlands, of Bundaberg, has been closed. Mr. Rowlands is now residing in the Brisbane district.

South Australia.

Mr. F. C. Strempel recently lost his second son. Much sympathy was expressed, and the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society decided to send a letter of sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Strempel.

Tasmania.

Mr. Leonard Rodway, whose name is included in the list of New Year Honours as a C.M.G., has been for many years the Government botanist of Tasmania, an honorary position given to him in recognition of his great services to the botany of that State. In this direction he has done most valuable work, much of it of a pioneer character. His publications include "The Flora of Tasmania" and a number of other works on botany. He was one of the founders of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Society, and has long been a leading member of the Royal Society.

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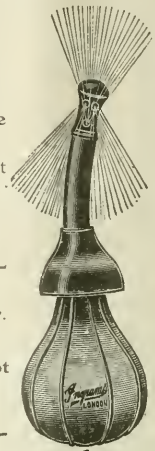

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SHOW A GOOD PROFIT AND PROVES A READY SELLER.

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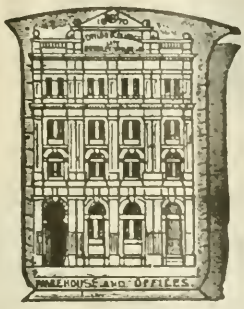

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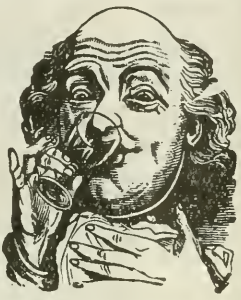

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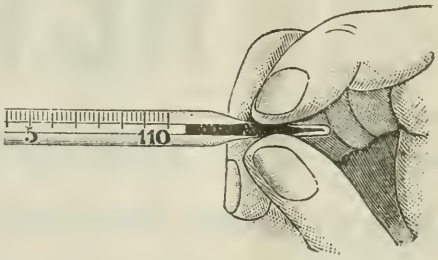

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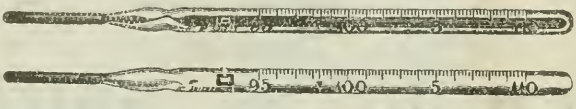

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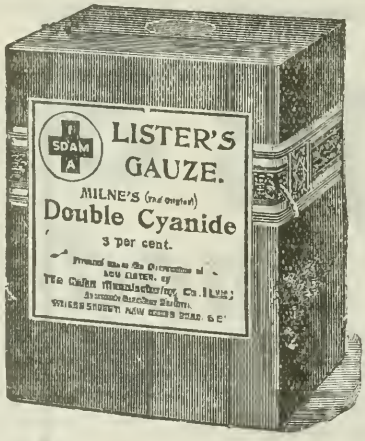

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THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

AS required by Section 95, Sub-section of the "Medical Act 1915," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: THURSDAY and FRIDAY, 1st and 2nd March, 1917.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. Literature. The University Text Book in English.

ENGLISH TEXT BOOK.

The Text Book in English for December, 1916, and March and June, 1917, will be:

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To be memorised—

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When Icicles Hang.
Milton—*Paradise Lost* ("He scarce had ceased" to end of selection.)
When I Consider.
Keats—*Ode to Autumn.*
Much Have I Travelled.
Wordsworth—*The Solitary Reaper.*
Scorn Not the Sonnet.
Tennyson—*Break, Break, Break.*
Crossing the Bar.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cyclic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

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The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 5th, 6th and 7th March, 1917.

Candidates must give ten days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Sections 96 and 98 of "The Medical Act, 1915," Part III., must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.

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Every person who shall have obtained a certificate of having passed the Preliminary Examination, and who shall have entered into articles of agreement as an apprentice with a registered pharmaceutical chemist, shall, on production of such certificate, and of such articles of agreement, and upon payment of the fee of one guinea, be entitled, upon application to the Registrar within three months of the date of such articles, to have his name placed upon the Register of Apprentices. The term of apprenticeship is for four years. Indentures must be in triplicate. Apprenticeship Indenture Forms (three copies) may be obtained from the offices of the Board. (Charge, 2s. 6d. per set.)

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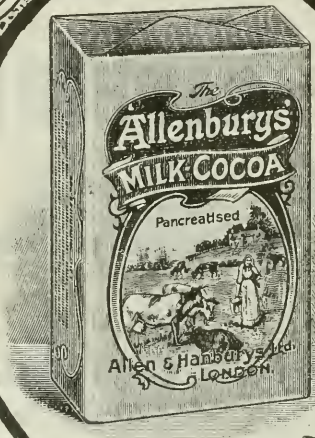

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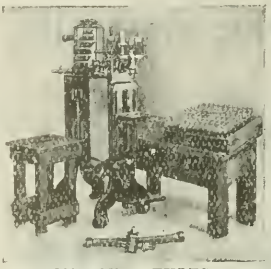

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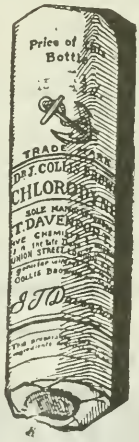

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